

**30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
October 25, 2009

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon	7AM	Stan & Fran Conway
	9AM	Mary Ann Bellia †, & Chuck, <i>living</i>
Tue	7AM	Sal Alioto
	9AM	Frank Bonavia
Wed	7AM	Melvin "Bud" Bode
	9AM	Maud O'Sullivan
Thu	7AM	O'Brien Family, <i>living</i>
	9AM	Courtney Weschler
Fri	7AM	Emma, Bud, Alice, & Lorri
	9AM	Victor, <i>living</i>
Sat	7AM	Lorenzo Alessandria
	9AM	Jack O'Leary
	5PM	Marysia Okreglak, <i>living</i>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Lorenzo Acciai, Ken Anderson, Sally Arango, Marco Balistreri, Bertha, Madison Bostow, Joseph Calleja, Patricia Cane, Charles, Yondellan Coleman, Elizabeth Crowley, Bill & Vladia Cutler, Dick Degan, Doris Doty, Doug, Nanette Duffy, Ed, Luke Duval, Faith Gillis, Philip Hansen, Eileen Harriman, Taro Hart, Rosemarie Hayes, Joseph, Germaine Khohayting, Jeanne Killian, Karla Kincade, Jan Lamphere, Manda Masse, Mary McDonald, Warren McGuire, Richard Mogas, Monte Maroevich, Tony, Valerie Milroy, Marie Palleschi, Mark Piatti, Bertha Ponce de Leon, Joe Popovich, Stephanie, Steve Schlesselmann, Mary Ann Smith, Rose Tannlund, Tim, Elizabeth Ward, Sibeal Whitty, & Camilla Wolfe.

**STEWARDSHIP – A WAY OF LIFE**

Last weekend's collection	\$ 3,829.
Weekly goal	\$ 5,200.
Weekly average	\$ 4,202.

**THE ANNUAL "OCTOBER COUNT"**

Every October, parishes count those who attend Sunday Masses, for Archdiocesan records.

357 people attended our four Masses last week:  
(125 men, 193 women, & 39 children).

41 more than last week.

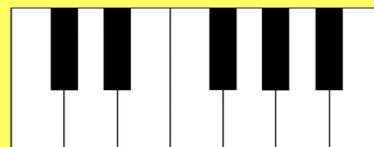
Let us pray that *all* those who are able to attend will do so, and come to celebrate the Mass with us!

**OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY**

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, "The rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the rosary is beyond description."

**YOUNG AT HEART MEETING**

**Sing-Along  
with Eric Maddox  
Music Director of  
St. Sebastian Church**



*Wednesday (note the change of day)*

November 4, in the Parish Hall

Serve-Yourself Buffet of

Sandwiches, Salad, & Cookies

\$5/person. \$7.50/non-members & guests

R.S.V.P. Denise Carrade 461-0689

Barbara Wakida 461-2735

**LECTORS AT MASS**

St. Sebastian Parish is grateful for the many men and women who volunteer to prepare and to read the Word of the Lord at our daily and Sunday Masses.

*"Keep up the good work!"*

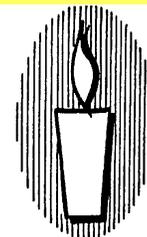
We are always in need of new Lectors and readers for the General Intentions. If you think that you might be suited for this service to the People of God, please call the Parish Office.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE**

**ABOUT THE CHURCH?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A CATHOLIC ?**

Adults interested in becoming Catholics, or Catholics who want to receive the Sacraments of Communion, and/or Confirmation are invited to attend R.C.I.A. classes (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) with the view to receiving the Sacraments next Easter. Adult Catholics who want to know more about their religion are also welcome to inquire. Call the Parish Office at 461-0704.



**RCIA**

### POPE BENEDICT ON THE ROSARY

Excerpt from Pope Benedict XVI  
Angelus Message 10/2/05



“The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, the unique contemplative prayer through which, guided by the Lord’s Heavenly Mother, we fix our gaze on the face of the Redeemer in order to be conformed to his joyful, light-filled, sorrowful and glorious mysteries.

This ancient prayer is having a providential revival, thanks also to the example and teaching of the beloved Pope John Paul II. I invite you to reread his Apostolic Letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* and to put into practice its directions on the personal, family and community levels.

We entrust the work of the Synod to Mary: may she lead the entire Church to an ever clearer knowledge of the proper mission of service to the Redeemer truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.”



### SET CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR NEXT WEEKEND

Next Saturday night, clocks should be set *back* one hour before you go to bed!

### RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Between 4 and 5 weeks after conception, the child’s brain develops at an incredible rate, and the stomach, esophagus, pancreas, intestines, kidneys, and even reproductive organs are all developing. Between 5 and 6 weeks the embryo begins to move spontaneously and reflexively—e.g., in response to touch the embryo will withdraw. By 6 weeks plus 2 days an embryo’s brain waves have been recorded by EEG.



**1260 on your AM dial**  
**immaculate heart radio**  
*sharing the heart of the Christian faith*

### STEWARDSHIP BY THE BOOK

Today’s Psalm says, “*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*”

Good stewards demonstrate by their living and giving that they understand *God* to be the source of all they are and have.

### MARIN CATHOLIC H.S. OPEN HOUSE

You are cordially invited to attend the  
Marin Catholic High School  
College Preparatory

### OPEN HOUSE

**Today, October 25 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

It’s a full 2½ hour program for 7th & 8th graders and their parents, beginning in the gymnasium at 2 p.m.  
*No need to R.S.V.P.*

### VOCATION RETREAT DAY FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Nazareth House, 245 Nova Albion Way, San Rafael  
Sunday, November 8, 2009 from 9am to 4pm  
Sr. Linda 479-8282 or Sr. Fintan 310-216-8170.

### #1 Did You Know? Take the Child Safety Quiz

Parents, guardians, and adults who care for children face constant challenges when trying to help keep children safer in today’s fast-paced world. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) offers easy-to-use safety resources to help address these challenges. NCMEC’s Web site offers a range of practical information for parents and guardians that will help keep children safe from harm. Visit [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com) and click on “Child Safety”. For particular help, you may call Barbara Elordi, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 614-5504 (private), or [ElordiB@sfarchdiocese.org](mailto:ElordiB@sfarchdiocese.org).

### RETROUVILLE

**A Lifeline for Marriage** - Retrouville helps couples through difficult times in their marriages, giving them the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine their lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples who had experienced marital difficulties at all levels from disillusionment to deep misery.

For confidential information, or to register for our next program beginning with a weekend on December 4-6, 2009, call 893-1005 or visit the website at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

**HUMANAE VITAE: TAKING STOCK**  
*(an excerpt) by Msgr. Robert J. Batule (2008)*

Ten years ago, to mark the thirtieth anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*, Father Richard John Neuhaus asked a diverse group of individuals across confessional boundaries to comment on Paul VI's encyclical in the pages of *First Things*. Allow me to cite three of the contributors to the symposium in the December 1998 issue of Father Neuhaus' journal.

Harold O.J. Brown is a professor at the Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte, North Carolina. He writes, "Abortion on demand followed contraception.... Now society is caught in the whirlwind, with massive rates of abortion, unwed motherhood (or 'single parenting,' as PC language puts it), sexually transmitted disease, the widespread collapse of the natural family, and an aging population in all developed countries.... [We] are now forced to contemplate the wreckage of a society."

R. Albert Mohler, Jr. is president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He writes, "We must recognize the prophetic character of the encyclical's warning about the inevitable result of the contraceptive mentality.... The Pill allowed a near-total abandonment of Christian sexual morality in the larger culture. Once the sex act was severed from the likelihood of childbearing, the traditional structure of sexual morality collapsed."

Charles J. Chaput is the archbishop of Denver, Colorado. He writes, "The rates of abortion, family breakdown, wife and child abuse, venereal disease and out-of-wedlock births have all massively increased since the mid-1960s.... Population control policies are now an accepted part of nearly every foreign aid discussion. The massive export of contraceptives, abortion and sterilization—frequently as a prerequisite for aid dollars and often in direct contradiction to local moral traditions—is a thinly disguised form of population warfare and cultural re-engineering." Chaput senses that contraception is behind a lot of other morally problematic issues today. "In vitro fertilization, cloning, genetic manipulation and embryo experimentation are all descendants of contraceptive technology.... Contraceptive technology, precisely because of its impact on sexual intimacy, has subverted our understanding of the purpose of sexuality, fertility and marriage itself." He concludes that our culture is "in serious distress. American society is wracked with sexual identity and behavior dysfunctions, family collapse, and a general coarsening of attitudes toward the sanctity of human life.... Paul VI was right about so many of the consequences deriving from contraception...because he was right about contraception itself."

All three commentators above agree with Paul VI, who says in paragraph 17 of his encyclical that contraception could open wide the way for marital infidelity and a general lowering of moral standards. Reliance on it causes a man to forget the reverence due to a woman and reduces her to a mere instrument for his satisfaction. Public authorities could impose the use of contraceptives on everyone. Contraception will mislead men and women into thinking that they have unrestricted control over their own bodies.

The Holy Father was way ahead of the curve in predicting the consequences of a cultural dependence on contraception. Not only was he genuinely prophetic but he seemed also to understand that what is required of spouses in their observance of the moral law does indeed have a bearing on the just ordering of society.

*Msgr. Robert J. Batule is a priest of the Diocese of Rockville Centre. In the course of his ministry, he has been a parochial vicar, a pastor and a teacher. He recently completed an S.T.L. at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas (Angelicum) in Rome. He has published articles in Faith and Reason, The Priest, HPR (Homiletic and Pastoral Review) and other journals.*