

ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

373 BON AIR ROAD, GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1709
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SEPTEMBER 23, 2012
25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Where do the wars
and where do the conflicts among you come from?**

**Is it not from your passions
that make war within your members?**

**You covet but do not possess.
You kill and envy but you cannot obtain;
you fight and wage war.**

**You do not possess because you do not ask.
You ask but do not receive,
because you ask wrongly,
to spend it on your passions.**

—from the Letter of James

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 5 PM
Sundays..... 7AM, 9AM, & 11AM
Monday - Saturday.. 7AM & 9AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays..... 3:30 - 4:30 PM

PastorRev. Mark Taheny
Parochial Vicar.....Rev. Paul Perry
DeaconRev. Mr. Bill Turrentine

Parish School of Religion:

Renée O'Neill: ReneeGOneill@gmail.com

Confirmation Youth Group:

Dave Previtali: StSebConfirmation@yahoo.com
CYO: Bob McCullough StSebastianCYO@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 24—29

Mon 7AM Fr. Paul Perry, *living*
9AM Ken Johnson

Tue 7AM Margie Burke
9AM Fr. Gearoid O'Sullivan

Wed 9AM *Communion Service*

Thu 9AM *Communion Service*

Fri 7AM Randa Stenson
9AM Rich Ongaro

Sat 7AM Louis Batmale
9AM Hayden Geissberger, *living*

Since both Fr. Mark and Fr. Paul will be attending a Convocation of Priests this week, we will have a Communion Service rather than Mass on Wednesday and Thursday, and there will be no 7AM Masses.

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Angela, Bertha, Diane, Elizabeth, Joey, Kristen, Mary, Monica, Patrick, Stephanie, Tim, Carol Abraham, Lorenzo Acciai, Sally Arango, Ron Bacceti, Madison Bostow, Marilyn Charbonneau, Lori Cohen, Yondellan Coleman, Elizabeth Cook, Elizabeth Crowley, Joyce Devine, Doris Doty, Nanette Duffy, Charlotte Fini, Terrence Fischer, Eileen Harriman, Taro Hart, Rosemarie Hayes, Chiara Iulucci, Germaine Khohayting, Jeanne Killian, Joe Lazor, John Legnitto, Barbara Mass, Manda Masse, Gino Mazzenatto, William McNamara, Richard Mogas, Margaret & Monte Maroevich, Valerie Milroy, Mark Piatti; Jenna, Jack, Kate, & Purl Clan; Kylie Richardson, Peggy Roth, Steve Schlesselmann, Helen Smith, Mary Lou Smith, Sharon Smith, and Rose Tanlund.

**Our many sick, homebound
and hospitalized parishioners
who are unable to attend Mass
will be blessed by your prayers.**

BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study led by Deacon Bill Turrentine meets on Sundays after the 9am Mass, down in the Parish Hall.

Drop in and take part!



ST. SEBASTIAN CYO BASKETBALL

CYO Basketball Registration for the upcoming season is now in progress.
Register at: www.StSebastianBasketball.com

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION ("PSR")

**Late Registration for children
is now underway!**

(Classes have already begun.)
To register, contact Renée O'Neill
614-0704 or ReneeGOneill@gmail.com

**CONFIRMATION YOUTH GROUP ("CYG")
has also begun meeting. Contact Dave Previtali
StSebConfirmation@yahoo.com**

IMMACULATE HEART RADIO

Sharing the Heart of the Christian Faith

Join us for our Fall Pledge Drive
September 24—27

Live, from our radio network headquarters
4 full days of life-changing testimonies and inspiring
interviews, plus exciting giveaways, and much more.

Tune your radio to 1260AM
or listen online at ihradio.com
IMMACULATE HEART RADIO



1260 on your AM dial

immaculate heart radio
sharing the heart of the Christian faith

**St. Mary Star of the Sea Church
180 Harrison, Sausalito, CA**

OKTOBERFEST

Saturday, October 6, 2012 at 6pm
German Home-style Dinner
Live Music & Dancing
Starring Bay Area Favorites Oompah! All Stars
Spaten Keg Beer
Wine & Drinks
Great Raffle Prizes (\$2,000 +)
\$30/Adults \$15/Children
Reservations: Ursula D. 332-5590

A HOMILY ON TODAY'S READINGS
by Deacon Adam McMillan

A person's actions reveal their psychology, above all, their fears. St. James teaches, in the second reading today, that wars and conflicts between people come from the conflict within each person. If we hate someone else, it is because we hate something inside ourselves. Otherwise, we might pity them or teach them, but we would not hate them. If we are rivals with someone else, it is because we are unsure of ourselves. Otherwise, we would just be glad to see someone succeed even more than we do.

Today, the twelve apostles were arguing about who was the greatest. In their culture, it was important to know the rankings of any group. The Twelve had been chosen from all Jesus' disciples, being elevated to a higher place. Clearly, Simon, who was renamed Peter, had the highest place within that group of twelve. James and John were next, and as brothers, they came as sort of a pair. But, they wanted to replace Peter at the top, or at least, their mother wanted them to replace him. ... This kind of ranking was important to them. That is why they were arguing along the way.

What were the Apostles afraid of? Perhaps they were afraid that they would have to serve, instead of being served. Jesus reverses this by teaching them that the highest is the one who has to serve. "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all, and the servant of all." This is most clearly stated after Jesus washes their feet at the Last Supper. To be first in the Kingdom of God, is to be the one with the most responsibility to care for others.

Why would the Apostles be afraid to serve? Perhaps, they think that the one who serves is unappreciated, unloved. They want to be the person whom Jesus gladly embraces as a friend, not the person who looks on at such a friendship while serving. John the Baptist knew that he was not worthy to loosen the strap on Jesus' sandals. But, the Apostles are acting like young girls arguing over who is whose best friend. No one wants to be a third wheel, part of the supporting cast. ...

Of course, the only person who was really divine was Jesus Christ; he actually was God among humans. However, the saints are examples for us of

what Aristotle meant. To meet a living saint is to have an entirely new experience of humanity. We believe that, because of the Holy Spirit, it is possible for every Christian to become a saint, a person who seems completely different. Such a person is a witness to the truth of the Gospel. Christianity, without witnesses, is only an interesting idea. A saint is living proof that there is really something to the beliefs we hold.

So what makes a saint different from the rest? ... They have resolved their fear of being left out. Not by becoming anti-social, or becoming their own best friend, or anything like that. They have discovered *Someone* who loves them, and will never stop loving them, no matter what happens. This *Someone* appreciates them the way an artist appreciates his own masterpiece. This *Someone* can never be hurt, nor destroyed, nor taken away. With a love like that, of what is there to be afraid?

Such a person will have finally gotten inside the innermost circle. How will people react to that? Everyone else can only consider themselves left out. They will react as in the first reading today: "Let us beset the just one, for he is obnoxious to us." Such a person will be martyred. Temptations will come from every side trying to prove that the saint is not really different from the rest of us. Then, cruelty will come, hoping to make the saint lash out, or break. "With reviling and torture, let us put him to the test that we may have proof of his gentleness." Finally, they will kill the saint to be rid of him. "Let us condemn him to a shameful death." As they treated Jesus, so they have treated innumerable Christians throughout history.

When we see a saint, we must either be filled with jealousy or envy. If it is envy, we will hate them. If it is jealousy, we will want to be like them. Jesus' message was that it is possible to be like him. He spoke of his Father in heaven with whom he has an unimaginably close relationship, but he taught us to call him "Our Father in Heaven." ... Jesus is inviting us into the innermost circle. If only we could see that God loves us—with a love that will never go away, no matter what—we would want nothing else. We would have no fears or worries. We would become like gods walking among human beings. We would serve everyone, love everyone, and build everyone up, because we would have no reason to fear our loss at their gain.

CHOOSE LIFE!

“Most of us assume that we have basic rights that come with special dignity of being human. These rights are inherent to human nature. They’re part of who we are. Nobody can take them away. But if there is no Creator, and nothing fundamental and unchangeable about human nature, and if “nature’s God” is kicked out of the public conversation, then our rights become the product of social convention. But social conventions can change. That means the definition of who is and who isn’t “human” can change.

American public life needs a framework that is friendly to religious belief because society can’t support its moral claims about freedom and rights with rational and secular arguments alone. In fact, to the degree that our society encourages a culture of unbelief, it undermines its own grounding. It causes its own decline by destroying the moral coherence of a public square in which all are respected and treated as equals.”

—*Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Philadelphia, “Life Matters: Religious Liberty and the American Soul,” 2012.*

CATHOLIC ADULT SINGLES OF MARIN Saturday, Sept. 29, 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Our Annual Sunset Cruise will be leaving from Tiburon at 6:30 p.m. for an hour and a half cruise past Angel Island and under the Golden Gate. Cost is \$20 for Adults. Boarding is at 6 p.m., but please arrive promptly by 5:45 p.m. to meet up with the group. Bring hearty hors d’oeuvres to share, your own beverage and dress in layers.

Marin Center for Independent Living ANNUAL GALA

“ANGELS BY THE BAY”

Friday, October 12, 2012 at 11AM
Corinthian Yacht Club in Tiburon.

The event features wine tasting, a restaurant raffle, silent auction, unique vendors, luncheon, and live auction. Join MCIL in celebrating 34 years of service to older adults and individuals with disabilities in Marin County. This year MCIL is proud to honor Gary S. Mizono, M.D., Physician-in-Chief at San Rafael’s Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, with the Mayor Albert J. Boro Excellence in Leadership Award.

**Information: Kathleen Woodcock, 459-6245 x17
or at www.marincil.org.**