

## Catechetical Sunday

# Pastoral Letter X

### Prayer for Catechists

O God, our Heavenly Father, you have given us the gift of these catechists to be heralds of the Gospel to our parish family. We lift them up to you in thanksgiving and intercede for them concerning their hopes and needs. May we be attentive to the presence of your Word in them, a Word that lifts up and affirms, calls forth and challenges, is compassionate and consoles. We pray that our parish family will always be blessed with those who have responded to the call to share in Christ's prophetic mission as catechists. May we too be open to the universal call to service that Christ addresses to all of his disciples, contributing our gifts to the communion of faith, the Church. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

### The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation



Brothers and sisters, the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is another sacrament which is unique to us catholic Christians. Other Christian's denominations may not understand the necessity and the importance of the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Some Christians who do not share our Catholic understanding of the sacraments may wonder "why should someone go and confess to a priest? Some Christians maintain that they can confess straight to God and so there is no need for human intermediaries. The God we believe in, is the one who always accomplish his mission through human mediators. Abraham, Moses, Prophets, and priests in the Old Testament, Jesus and the twelve apostles in the New Testament are clear examples of how God uses specific people to accomplish his mission.

### The Sacrament of Healing

The sacrament of baptism initiates us to a new life as children of God. This new life can be weakened and even lost by sin. That is why the Lord Jesus Christ, physician of our souls and bodies, who forgave the sins of the paralytic and restored him to bodily health has willed that his Church continue, in the power of the Holy Spirit, his work of healing and salvation even among her own members.

It is Christ who heals and forgives the penitent through the priest and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sin damages our relationship with God and with one another. Sin also affects our bond with the Church. Through the sacrament of Penance, we are reconciled to God, one another and to the Church: *"Those who approach the sacrament of Penance obtain pardon from God's mercy for the offense committed against him and are, at the same time, reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by their sins and which by charity, by example and by prayer labors for their conversion"* (CCC 1422)

### ☞ 10:00 AM Mass Celebration

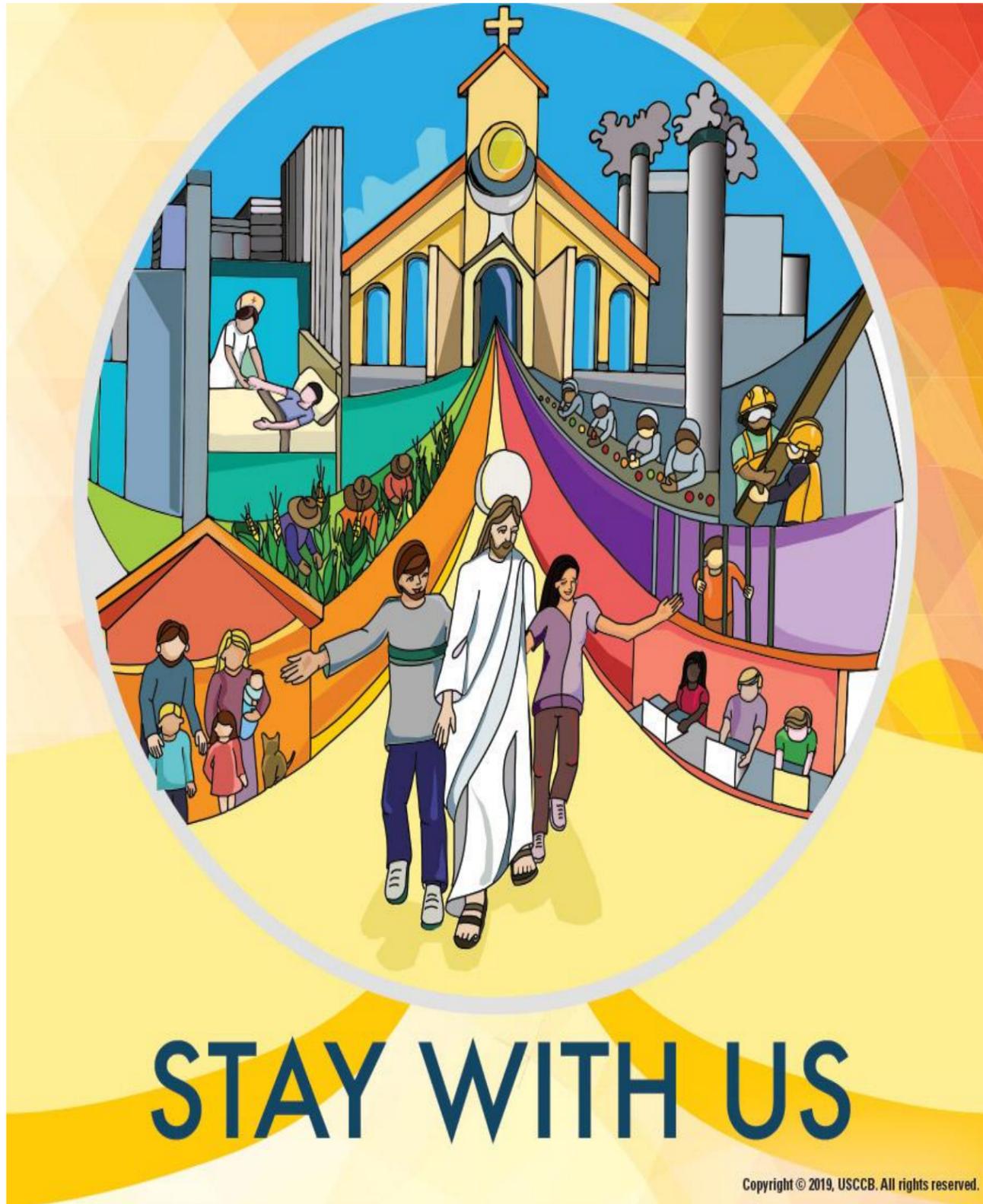
- ✦ Healing Prayers for ~
  - Father Paul Palmiotto
  - Cynthia Fairley
  - Gloria Mears
- ✦ In Memory of ~
  - Happy Birthday in Heaven Shamar Olivas
  - Natalie Francois Req. The Francois Family
  - Josephine Matarese Req. The Lewis Family

### ☞ 12:00 Noon Mass Celebration

- ✦ God's Healing for ~
  - Father Paul Palmiotto
  - Mauva Torrel, Renee Sampson,
  - Linda Hazel & Dolly Jankee
- ✦ Happy Birthday in Heaven Shamar Olivas

### ☞ 5:00 PM Mass Celebration

- ✦ Parish Families



### **Different Names attributed to this Sacrament**

It is called the *sacrament of conversion* because it makes sacramentally present Jesus' call to conversion, the first step in returning to the Father from whom one has strayed by sin.

It is called the *sacrament of Penance* since it consecrates the Christian sinner's personal and ecclesial steps of conversion, penance and satisfaction.

It is called the *sacrament of confession*, since the disclosure or confession of sins to a priest is an essential element of this sacrament. In a profound sense it is also a "confession" acknowledgement and praise of the holiness of God and of his mercy towards sinful person.

It is called the *sacrament of forgiveness* since by the priest's sacramental absolution God grants the penitent "pardon and peace"

It is called the *sacrament of Reconciliation* because it imparts to the sinner the love of God who reconciles.

### **Confession of sins**

The confession of sin even from a simply human point of view frees us and facilitates our reconciliation with others. Through such an admission a person looks squarely at the sins committed and takes responsibility for them and thereby opens oneself again to God and to the communion to the church in order to make a new future possible.

The Church affirms that "Confession of sins to a priest is an essential part of the sacrament of Penance. The authority that a priest forgives sins comes from Christ. It is Christ who acts through the priest (John 20:23).

Receiving the sacrament of reconciliation is a way of encountering the mercy of our loving God through his ministers. Due to our human weaknesses we commit sins that separate us from the Love of God. But God always long for us to go back to him so that we experience his peace and love. Let us not miss the opportunity to experience that love and mercy of God through the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Source: Catechism of the Catholic Church  
Fr. Bartholomew Mrosso M.afr

**Weekday Mass**  
**Monday thru Friday 8:30 AM - St. Benedict**  
**Monday thru Friday 12 Noon - St. Bonaventure**

Readings for the week of September 15, 2019

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51 3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 [Lk 15:18]/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

Monday 9/16:  
**Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**  
1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9 [6]/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday 9/17:  
St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Dr. of the Church  
1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday 9/18:  
1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday 9/19:  
**St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr**  
1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk 7:36-50

Friday 9/20:  
**Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gin, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companions, Martyrs**  
1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday:  
**St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist**  
Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 [cf. 1a, 7b]/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13

**Father Paul will offer his last mass before retirement on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM**  
**Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**101-41 91<sup>st</sup> Street**

Thank you For your Sacrificial Giving to our Parish

*thank you*

**For your Sacrificial Giving to our Parish**  
**Together let's meet our weekly goal of \$6,000.00**

- ✦ 10:00 Mass – 105 / \$1,420.00
- ✦ 12 Noon – 87 / \$ 760.00
- ✦ 5:00 Mass – 23 / \$487.00

 Please support the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal with Faith and Good Works  
**Goal: \$27,947.00**

**95 Pledged to date: \$23,478.00**  
**You can also text 917-336-1255**

**We're almost there!!! \$4,469.00 to pledge!**  
**Anything over goal comes back to parish!**

**Thank you!**  
Please help our parish by making your payments towards your pledge to...  
**Generation of Faith**  
**Total Pledged \$500,010.00**  
**Paid to Date: \$176,329.00**

**Monday & Thursday's ✦ 7:30 PM**  
**Youth Basketball & Karate: 5:00 – 7:30 PM**  
**Adult Physical Training,**  
**Self Defense & Karate 7:30 – 9:30 PM**  
**St. Benedict the Moor Church Hall**  
**See Mr. Sam or Sensei Rey**

 **There is power in every girl!**  
**Troop 4454**  
**Meet every 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday**

Today the Church celebrates Catechetical Sunday under the theme "**Stay with Us.**" Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

### **Our Faith Formation for K – 8 classes Began Today!**

**It is essential that every young person register for Faith Formation.**  
If you're registering your young person(s) for the first time please attached their Baptismal Certificate. **Registration Forms can be found at the entrance of the church.**

**Special Notice to Parents/Guardians:** Your young person should receive their sacraments in the parish where the family is registered.



Our parish will soon begin our faith journey with opportunities for you to inquire about the Catholic faith. Please see Fr. Bartholomew Fr. Gazena, Ms. Debra & Ms. Carolyn.

### **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!**

The Saint Vincent de Paul Ministry of St. Bonaventure-St. Benedict the Moor is actively seeking members! We are at a point in history when "advocating for social justice; and growing spiritually through the gift of self to others," has never been more critical! One of the greatest challenges to "seeking and serving the distressed" is that of acknowledging that we are all vulnerable. If you have a passion for change with regard to "social justice", e.g., health, education, environment, quality of life, diversity and inclusion, the Saint Vincent de Paul Ministry welcomes you. Please join us!  
"Live to give!"

**Stay Connected! Download MyParish app on your iPhone or Android smart phones FREE or text 88202**