

## FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK...

### Go WORK TODAY...



There is delicious irony in singing hymns on the Sunday closest to Labor Day, that specifically talk about work. This year, September 4 marks the unofficial end of summer. It is also the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity. We are just over half way through the long Trinity Season...our time of spiritual growth.

We learned in our study of the Mass the word *Liturgy*...from the Greek meaning "the people's work"...doesn't just involve one hour in church on Sunday. Our work for Christ and His Church is a life-long commitment to prayer, fasting and action! Our corporate and personal prayer lives must lead us into doing good works.

Hymn #576 (Hymnal 1940), "Come, labor on", is a **take action** hymn. The hymn tune *Ora Labora* literally translates "work hard!" It reflects the Benedictine motto *Ora et Labora*..."Pray and Work". Christian prayer and work are inseparable...we cannot pray without working...we cannot work without praying. Praying and working are essential elements of our Faith, which must be more than talk (*James 2.26*). Our Faith must be dynamic and active.

Jane L. Boswick (1813-1897) wrote the text for the hymn and published it in 1859. She was inspired by the Gospel parables that equate the coming of God's kingdom to sowing seeds and harvesting grain...

*...The harvest is large, but there are few workers to gather it in. Pray to the owner of the harvest that he will send workers to gather in his harvest. (Matthew 9.37-38 GNB)*  
*...But I tell you, take a good look at the fields; the crops are now ripe and ready to be harvested. (John 4.35 GNB)*

The hymn tune *Ora Labora*, was composed by T. Tertius Nobel (1867-1953) and first appeared in the Hymnal 1916. Born in Bath England, Dr. Nobel moved to the United States and served as organist at Saint Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York City, from 1913 until his retirement in 1942.

When we read the opening words to the hymn, "Come labor on, who dares stand idle on the harvest plain", we can't help but think about the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard in Matthew 20...

*...Why are you wasting the whole day here doing nothing? Well, then, you go and work in the vineyard. (Matthew 20.1-16 GNB)*

The harvest plain is the world...the golden grain waiting to be harvested are those waiting to hear the Good News about Jesus Christ. Our work is to go out into the world and use the gifts God has given us to spread the Good News.

We do God's work without doubts and fears...even in the face of Satan's opposition...and we do not stop. We are compelled to keep going and *claim the high calling angels cannot share, to young and old the gospel gladness bear*. Angels cannot preach the Gospel...it is the Church's mission...our mission...to preach the Gospel.

The hymn concludes by telling us this is no time for rest. And because our time here on earth is short...we must be diligent in doing God's work. We will know our work is complete when we hear God's words...

*...Well done, you good and faithful servant, come share my happiness. (Matthews 25.21 GNB)*

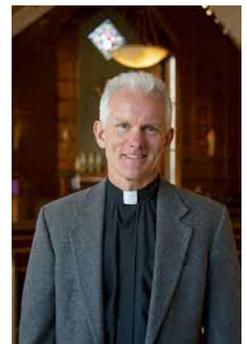
We often hear people tell us, "Don't work too hard". Labor Day is a secular holiday that for many of us gives us a day off from our busy lives. But when it comes to "the people's work"...the work we do for Christ and His Church, there is no such thing as a day off.

So, let's go work today!

Father Craig Looney +

## Bishop Scarlett to Visit

On Sunday, October 23, the Right Reverend Stephen C. Scarlett, Bishop Ordinary for the Diocese of the Holy Trinity, will visit Saint Joseph Parish. He will celebrate and preach at the 9:00 AM Parish Mass. Brunch will be served in the Parish Hall following Mass. It's been three years since Bishop Scarlett's last visit to the Parish (due to Covid restrictions). Please mark your calendars and be here to welcome Bishop Scarlett and enjoy food and fellowship afterward.



## Rector's Travelogue...

Where to begin? Well, I could talk about trains and train travel. I have loved trains since an uncle gave me a Lionel electric train set when I was 7 years old. Let me just say, from June 23 until July 9, I traveled over 3,800 miles on Amtrak trains...mostly in roomettes. The on-board service was good...the food excellent. I highly recommend their signature flat iron steak. My one word of advice to anyone planning a long train trip on Amtrak...be prepared for late trains...sometimes very late trains. Both of the long-distance trains I rode were five hours late arriving their respective destinations. I do want to share with you three memorable events from my 26-day trip.



On Sunday, June 26, I received a warm welcome by Father Kevin Bell and the people of Saint Mary's Anglican Catholic Church in Denver CO. It was my privilege to have been asked to preach at both the 7:30 AM Low Mass and 9:30 AM Sung Mass. Father

Bell is pictured above with the Altar at Saint Mary's in the background. The festive coffee hour afterward celebrated the high school graduation of one of the acolytes. Also present at the Mass was Julie Kruttschnitt and her family. Julie was for many years a faithful member of Saint Joseph Parish before moving to Colorado.

The following Sunday, July 3, I received an equally warm welcome from Bishop William McClean and the people of Saint Anne's Anglican Catholic Parish in Charlotte Hall, MD. I preached at the 10:00 AM Sung Mass. Coffee and fellowship followed in Saint Anne's recently completed parish hall. Saint Anne's is located in rural Maryland, which has a large Amish



population. Horses and buggies are a common sight on the roads. Bishop McClean was our Episcopal Visitor from 2004 through 2017. He sends his warm regards to the people of Saint Joseph Parish. We are grateful for his annual visitations to Saint Joseph Parish. The photo above was taken in front of the Altar at Saint Anne's. I am pictured with Bishop McClean (center) and Lay Reader Luke Slay (right).



Most of you remember the Harris Family. They lived in Yountville CA and were members of Saint Joseph Parish before they moved to Royal Oak MI. I spent a delightful two

days with David and his family in early July. Pictured above (left to right) are David, Maya Lane and Zoe. I'm in the background. The Harris' older daughter, Emma, has returned to the Philippines to pursue an acting career. The Harris Family sends love and prayers to the people of Saint Joseph Parish.

## Blessings of Animals...

Sunday, October 2, the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity, is the Sunday closest to Saint Francis Day (October 4). We will celebrate Saint Francis Day with our Annual Blessing of Animals at 10:30 AM in the Garden. Dogs, cats and critters of all kinds are welcome. Photos, statues, stuffed animals and ashes of our beloved pets will also be blessed. This is a cherished annual event during which we given God thanks for our animal companions and for the life and work of Saint Francis of Assisi.



All Saints' Day is Tuesday, November 1. Neither Father Looney nor Father Plimpton will be available to celebrate Mass that day. We are transferring the observance of All Saints' Day to the previous Sunday, October 30.

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed is Wednesday, November 2. A Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 PM. Please write the names of those you wish remembered at the Mass on the sheet provided. The names will be read aloud during the Homily.



The Discussion Group will resume meeting on Sunday, September 18. We will meet in the Library following the Coffee Hour. Our Fall Study Series will explore the lives and work of the Twelve Apostles and Saint Paul. The opening session will focus on what it means to be an "Apostle".

## Thanksgiving Day Mass...



Thursday, November 24, is Thanksgiving Day. There will be a Mass and Homily celebrated at 10:00 AM.

Thanksgiving Day has its roots in harvest festivals observed by ancient pagan religions and within Judaism. Among the Jews, each of the three pilgrimage festivals was associated with a harvest: Passover and the first-fruits, Pentecost and the spring harvest, and Tabernacles and the fall harvest.

The Early Church had no such observances, possibly as a reaction against the pagan festivals. Modern harvest festivals in the English Church are of nineteenth century origin. (*Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary, Pages 264-265*)

Saint James reminds us all good gifts and perfect presents come from God above, the Creator of heavenly lights (*James 1.16*). It's appropriate we give thanks to God for his many blessings every day and not just of Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving Day is set aside as a day of special thanks for all of his gifts and blessings.



Due to changes in their distribution methods, CALL Primrose no longer accepts food donations and has discontinued their Thanksgiving Fill-a-Box/Feed a Family Program.

CALL does need financial assistance in order to provide food to individuals and families in need. In 2020, CALL provided food to 66,000 individuals.

Saint Joseph Parish will be collecting cash contributions from parishioners beginning in mid October. Please make your check out to Saint Joseph Parish and indicate CALL in the memo block. All contributions should be received in the Parish Office by Sunday, November 6.

## Thanksgiving Day Canticle

**O** PRAISE the Lord, for it is a good thing to sing praises unto our God; \* yea, a joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful.

The Lord doth build up Jerusalem, \* and gather together the outcasts of Israel.

He healeth those that are broken in heart, \* and giveth medicine to heal their sickness.

O sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; \* sing praises upon the harp unto our God:

Who covereth the heaven with clouds, and prepareth rain for the earth; \* and maketh the grass to grow upon the mountains, and herb for the use of men;

Who giveth fodder unto the cattle, \* and feedeth the young ravens that call upon him.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; \* praise thy God, O Sion.

For he hath made fast the bars of thy gates, \* and hath blessed thy children within thee.

He maketh peace in thy borders, \* and filleth thee with the flour of wheat.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, \* and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \* world without end. Amen.

## Fall Prayer Book Holy Days...

September 21...Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (*Book of Common Prayer, Pages 251-251*)

September 29...Saint Michael and All Angels (*Book of Common Prayer, Pages 251-253*)

October 18...Saint Luke the Evangelist (*Book of Common Prayer, Pages 253-254*)

October 28...Saint Simon and Saint Jude, Apostles (*Book of Common Prayer, Pages 254-255*)

November 1...All Saints' Day (*Book of Common Prayer, Pages, 256-257*)

## Parish Library Acquisition Policy...



The purpose of the Parish library is to support the liturgical and educational ministries of the Parish. Partisan politics, whether church or secular, is rigorously avoided in these ministries. These ministries are living and flowing, not dead-set. At the same time, the Parish library operates with constraints on space, money and volunteer hours. With these things in mind, the library adopts the following donations, acquisitions and de-selecting policy:

**Donations:** The library accepts donations of all kinds of print media, as long as it is readable. Because unwanted electronic media (e.g., CDs, DVDs) is difficult to dispose of responsibly, the library only accepts donations of electronic media consistent with its acquisitions policy. Library acquisitions follow the policy below. If the library does not add an item to its collection, the library may return it to the donor. Donated items that are not added to the library collection and not returned to the donor are responsibly disposed of, for example by donation to another library or by sale for the benefit of the Parish.

**Acquisitions:** The library does not add nor retain any item supporting heresy or the view that one person or group of persons is more sinful or more holy because of their race, color or ethnicity. Nor does the library add or retain any item from a secular partisan viewpoint. The focus of library acquisitions is items not easily available to parishioners from other sources, such as public libraries. Considerations with regards to acquisitions are the current needs and interests of the Parish, repeat topics of discussion in the Parish's liturgical and educational ministries, and space. The library encourages parishioner recommendations for acquisitions. A lower standard applies to acquisitions of periodicals, which are not intended to be retained long.

**De-selecting:** Due to space constraints, from time to time, the library must remove items that do not meet the current needs and interests of the Parish. Considerations with regards to de-selection include an item's condition, whether an item is a duplicate, whether it was recently checked-out, whether it was donated by a current member of the Parish, and how closely the item relates to the Parish's ongoing liturgical and educational ministries.

This policy is subject to change.

*(Edit...Our thanks to Rebekah Shapiro for developing the Parish Library Acquisition Policy.)*

## Gazelle Creative Learning School...



Gazelle Creative Learning School resumes classes on Tuesday, September 6. Teachers, parents and their children can be present in the Parking Lot anytime between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM. Please exercise caution when entering and exiting the Parking Lot. Also, anyone who has a reason to be in the Undercroft during the time children are present **must** wear a mask.



Stir-up Sunday is the informal name for the last Sunday in the Season of Trinity before we start the Church Year all over again on Advent Sunday. It gets its name from the opening words of the Collect in the *Book of Common Prayer*... "Stir up, we beseech the, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people".

In Victorian times, the people would hear the opening words of the Collect...and it would remind them it was time to put together and "stir up" the ingredients for the Christmas pudding. The whole family was involved in the process of putting together and stirring the pudding, which had to be cooked well in advance of Christmas Day and then reheated. Today, most people who keep the tradition purchase ready-made Christmas puddings.

Our 1928 *Book of Common Prayer* designates this Sunday the Sunday Next before Advent and this title can be traced to the Sarum Missal. This year, November 20, is the Sunday Next before Advent. The propers for the day are distinctly linked to the approaching Season of Advent. The Advent theme is also apparent in the hymns and lessons appointed for Thanksgiving Day. While Thanksgiving Day is not a Holy Day, it does form a bridge between the Trinity and Advent seasons.



*A Christmas Pudding*

## THE NEXT ISSUE...

The next issue of *The Parish Times* will be the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany edition. The target date for publication and distribution is November 21. If you have an article or announcement you wish published, please submit it via e-mail or in writing by November 14. All submissions are subject to space limitations and approval and editing by the Rector. All submissions must be free of partisan politics...whether Church or secular.

## Parish Mask Update

On Thursday, August 18, San Mateo County moved to the "green" or lowest Covid-19 community level. This is good news for the County. For now...wearing a mask in church is optional for fully-vaccinated persons.

Please remember the pandemic has not ended. We will continue to monitor the situation as it changes and adapt our Parish mask policy as required.



## Schedule

Sundays – 9:00 AM Parish Mass & Sermon  
Coffee Hour and Discussion Group

Weekdays/Holy Days as announced

Sacrament of Penance by Appointment

The Reverend Father Craig Looney, Rector  
The Reverend Father Herbert Plimpton, Assisting Priest

*THE CONTINUATION OF ANGLICANISM: We affirm that the Church of our fathers, sustained by the most Holy Trinity, lives yet...are determined to continue in the Catholic Faith, Apostolic Order, Orthodox Worship and Evangelical Witness of the traditional Anglican Church.*

[www.saintjosephparish.net](http://www.saintjosephparish.net)

650 347 4423

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

770 NORTH EL CAMINO REAL

SAN MATEO CA 94401

