

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 10, 2017**

“If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.”  
— *Matthew 18:19*



In the ancient world watchmen were extremely important people. They kept communities safe, and were there to alert them to any impending danger or attack. Before locks, alarms, and security systems, watchmen were the protectors, the safety measure. So, when the Lord charges Ezekiel as a watchman today, it is a weighty charge. So weighty, we learn, that if Ezekiel fails to sound the alarm for those around him and they perish in a state of wickedness, Ezekiel will be held responsible! This profound connection between God’s will on earth and in heaven is repeated in today’s Gospel, where Jesus instructs us that we are to be the security force, the watchers placed on alert that nowhere in the Body of Christ, the church, will there be any two members of the one Body who are not reconciled. Scripture tells us that Jesus reconciled all things in heaven and on earth through the blood of his cross. But we are given the mission to continue that reconciliation on earth as in heaven through our ceaseless efforts to be, as Paul would write, ambassadors of reconciliation. Let us not get too comfortable thinking that we are responsible only for keeping our own lives from the path of wickedness and disagreement. We are also held accountable for the lives of the members of Christ’s body around us.

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**TODAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Warn the wicked, trying to turn them from their ways (Ezekiel 33:7-9).

**Psalm** — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

**Second Reading** — Owe nothing to anyone, except mutual love (Romans 13:8-10).

**Gospel** — If two agree about anything for which they pray, it shall be granted to them (Matthew 18:15-20).

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday</b> 8:00 am	<b>September 11</b> † Jenny Sant
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>September 12</b> † Paul and †Theresa Vella
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>September 13</b> † Vincent Gagliardo Sr. † Maria and †Giuseppe Mazzaferro
7:00 pm	† Perfecto and † Gertrudes Vinluan † Belen Ramos † Zoilo Ramos † Alwyn Wales
<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 am	<b>September 14</b> † Encarnacion Adiarte
<b>Friday</b> 8:00 am	<b>September 15</b> † Josefina Flandez
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 am	<b>September 16</b> † Jeremias Zeuli
4:30 pm	† Manuel Scerri
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am	<b>September 17</b> People of the Parish Victoria Calderon (L)
9:30 am	† Joseph I. Bosso
11:30 am	Maltese Society

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Sunday Collection Sept 3, 2017**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 3,249.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 1,751.00</b>
<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>\$ 970.00</b>

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the “memo” section of the check.

This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. **We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**

**Emergency Collection  
for relief in Hurricane Harvey**

As we are all aware, Hurricane Harvey has created an unprecedented and catastrophic weather event of immense proportions. Thirteen million people are under flash flood watches or warnings, 58 counties are under disaster declaration. Our hearts and prayers go out to the families that have lost loved ones and to all who have lost homes and businesses or suffered damage of any kind.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked that an emergency collection to be taken up. This emergency collection will be used both to support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted dioceses.

Thank you for your generous response to those in need for our Hurricane Harvey special second collection today.

*Cebu Clergy Performing Artists*

**Sunday**

**September 17, 2017**

**Showtime: 2:00 PM**

**St. Elizabeth Church**

**Tickets \$20.00 on sale after Mass**

On Saturday , September 16<sup>th</sup> Devotion to the Two Hearts -1000 Hail Mary’s and Divine Mercy will be recited after the 8:00 am Mass until 3:30 pm in the Rectory Chapel.

Everyone is invited to attend. (Your attendance for any length of time will be welcome.)

The Maltese Society meeting will be on Monday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, Meeting Room Number One.

**Women of the Bible**

St. Paul of the Shipwreck will be hosting a Two-Day Bible Study Retreat on Friday September 15<sup>th</sup> from 6PM to 9PM and Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 5PM.

The retreat leader is Sister Toinette Eugene, PhD.

The cost is \$30, which includes evening snacks, course materials and lunch on Saturday.

**Pre-registration is required.**

For full details contact Shipwreck’s Church Office 415-468-3434

**The Sisters of the Good Shepherd, who have a 376-year history, are celebrating 85 years of service to San Francisco** this year. They began by caring for teens who were runaways from abusive homes and were placed by the Juvenile Courts. Now, the Sisters provide a transitional living program—called Good Shepherd Gracenter—for women without resources who are determined to break free of alcohol or drug addiction. Thanks to their amazing program which focuses on wellness and provides individualized services and support—and lots of prayer—Gracenter has a **95% success rate!**

Their annual fundraiser luncheon is Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at Patio Español, 2850 Alemany Blvd. at noon, followed by an Open House for those who wish. Please check the website for more info: [www.gsgracenter.org](http://www.gsgracenter.org) or call (628) 224-2050. Come join the Sisters and learn more! If you can’t attend, buy a raffle ticket for some GREAT prizes! Gracenter is totally privately funded and is giving determined women a *successful* way to begin their life anew!

**ICF ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON**

All parishioners are invited to attend the ICF Anniversary Luncheon, on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Basque Cultural Center, South San Francisco. 12:00 noon no host cocktails, 12:30 Lunch. Menu will consist of House Salad, Chicken Cordon Blue or Salmon with Champagne Sauce, Dessert/Coffee/Wine. The cost is \$35.00. Please call Mary Perata at 415-239-5936. Reservation deadline is September 20<sup>th</sup>.