

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 9, 2018**

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs to the kingdom?

— James 2:5



SEE BEYOND OUTWARD APPEARANCES

The phrase “Sunday best” has lost much of its meaning in our society today. Some lament the loss of people dressing up for church on Sunday; others think it’s a healthy sign that we’re as casual in attire gathered before the Lord as we are elsewhere. No matter which school of thought on this topic we belong to, James would probably chastise us. In either case, we are still focused on external appearance, mistaking it for some sort of favored position before God. True, James criticizes the community that favors the rich and well-dressed while ostracizing the poorly clothed, but even more he criticizes the making of distinctions, making choices based on criteria that having nothing to do with the reign of God. James might turn our attention to the reign of God described by Isaiah, in which people are healed and the earth becomes ripe to bear fruit. Jesus today is focused on this reign of God, healing a Gentile man in a region hostile to his Jewish faith, not mindful of the man’s origins or clothing or status or ability to repay. Isaiah, James, and Jesus in Mark’s Gospel all call us to look more deeply to find where the will of God needs to be done, and has been done, on earth as in heaven.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Be strong, fear not! Here is your God

(Isaiah 35:4-7a).

Psalm — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ (James 2:1-5).

Gospel — Jesus makes the deaf hear and the mute speak (Mark 7:31-37).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:00 am	September 10 † Luigi Romani
Tuesday 8:00 am	September 11 † Belen Ramos
Wednesday 8:00 am 7:00 pm	September 12 Communal Service † Zoilo Ramos
Thursday 8:00 am	September 13 † Vincent Gagliardo Sr. † Maria and † Giuseppe Mazzaferro
Friday 8:00 am	September 14 † Joseph and † Dolor Micallef and Family
Saturday 8:00 am 4:30 pm	September 15 † Vickey De Horney † Delia Gemignani
Sunday 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	September 16 People of the Parish † Diane Rose Rebagliati Victoria Calderon (L) Maltese Society

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Sunday Collection Sept 2, 2018

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
Sunday Collection	\$ 3,931.00
Over/Under	\$ 1,069.00
Second Collection	\$ 976.00

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.)**



Religious Education Class Enrollment is NOW! School began on September 8th. Registration forms are now available in the Church vestibule and at the parish office. Registration forms are also available online.

For more information please see the website www.stelizabethsf.org or call Mrs. Tessie Alano at 415-601-0310.

Office of Worship

The Archdiocese Office of Worship will be conducting training for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers. Contact the St. Elizabeth parish office to pre-register for the training. Fees are \$20.00 if pre-registered and \$25.00 for same day registrants.

Dates and Times

St. Stephens	Oct. 20 th	10-3
	Oct. 27 th	10-12
St. Timothy	Nov. 3 rd	10-3
	Nov. 10 th	10-12

In order to receive a certificate of completion, ministers must attend **BOTH** Saturdays and will focus on one ministry at the training.

The Maltese Society meeting will be on Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30 pm in Cantwell Hall meeting room number 1.

Good Shepherd Gracenter

Annual Gala Luncheon, **Free to Fly**, to benefit Good Shepherd Gracenter, whose Mission is to help women without resources break free from drug and alcohol addiction to create a hopeful future for themselves and others. The fundraising event is Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018 at Patio Espanol, with a DJ, photo booth, silent auction, raffle, and *live auction*. Gracenter will honor Martha Ryan, from the Homeless Prenatal Program as well as an outstanding graduate, Pali Boucher, the founder of Rocket Dog Rescue. For ticketing/sponsorship info, please go to <http://GSG18.givesmart.com>. Or contact Sr. Marguerite at sr.marguerite@gsggracenter.org or call (628) 224-2050.

Your Petitions Delivered to Mary’s House!

Fr. Peri Moses will be leading a Pilgrimage to Mary’s House, at Ephesus, Turkey. You are invited to write your intentions to Mary and leave them in front of Our Lady Of Fatima in Church, before September 19th. Fr. Peri will hand deliver them to Our Lady’s House for you.

A Wonderful Service and Volunteer Opportunity at St. Mary’s Cathedral

Catholic Charities is seeking a San Francisco parish group to host a Handicapables luncheon at St. Mary’s Cathedral one Saturday a year from noon to 2:00 PM. Parish volunteers would provide the lunch at the Cathedral, and host the guests by welcoming and visiting with them. Catholic Charities helps manage the Handicapables program, which provides seniors and adults with disabilities the opportunity to gather once a month at St. Mary’s Cathedral to socialize over lunch, celebrate Mass as an option, and enjoy each other’s company. Sometimes entertainment and/or a speaker are provided. The San Francisco Fire Department currently provides escort assistance for the transportation vehicle to and from the lunch. We are hoping to get a total of 11 different parishes to each host one luncheon at the Cathedral during the year. If you are interested, please contact Diane Prell by email at: DPrell@CatholicCharitiesSF.org or by calling 415-452-3500.