



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Readings for the Week of January 11, 2009

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11/Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9/
Mk 1:7-11
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Stewardship: Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. The U.S. bishops pastoral on stewardship reminds us that Baptism gives all of His disciples a share in His priestly work and calls them “to offer up the world and all that is in it—especially themselves—to the Lord of all.”

Questions Of The Week

Adults: What does it mean to be loved by God?

Children: What can I recall about the story of Jesus’ Baptism?

Religious Education

Once a Month Middle School Religious Education class will meet on Saturday, January 24th, from 11am to 5pm. Families are welcome to join us at 4pm Mass.

All traditional classes for Religious Education resume on the February 1st.

Confirmation pictures are in, please come by and pick them up during the office hours.

Cevicos Youth

Mission Fundraisers

Saturday, January 24th (after the 4pm Mass) - The Cevicos Youth Mission will be hosting a traditional Dominican dinner and silent auction to help defray costs for their trip to Cevicos in February. The silent auction will feature prints and original art work by Bernard Gerstner. Tickets are \$12.00 and can be purchased in the Parish office or on January 18th after all weekend Masses. Come and join us for a tasty and fun evening and support our Youth as they prepare for this important trip.

Wednesday, January 28th—Join us for dinner at Jalapeno’s Mexican Restaurant and a 50/50 raffle from 4pm till closing. Ten percent of the profits of the evening will be donated by Jalapeno’s to the Cevicos Youth Mission. Come support our Youth Mission team and have dinner with us on the 28th.

Stop the World I Want to Get Off!

Stop the World I want to get off! I find myself lately feeling like I am on a carousel wishing the ride would stop so I could step off and take a breather. I really want to stop and smell the roses to coin a phrase. But I keep saying I don’t have that luxury. Christmas this year was a blur and all of my extracircular and work activities really caught up with me.

I don’t think Jesus wants us to be moving so fast. When I reflect on the lack of my involvement with the holiday preparations I’m sad. Gifts were purchased hastily just to have something under the tree. The usual thought that goes into picking just the right gift was absent. The decorations were few and done the week before the holiday thanks to my daughter Emily. If it weren’t for her and Aaron we wouldn’t have even had a tree.

Does all of this sound familiar to you too? Never enough time to do everything you want. I am the doer at my house. I always say, “Christmas doesn’t happen at my house unless I make it happen”. Christmas did happen and my involvement this year was minimal. I had to “let go and let God.” Not a very easy task for the doer. Letting go of the control is difficult. So you might ask what brought me to the idea of letting go and, more importantly, what was the lesson and the gifts received.

It wasn’t until after the holiday that I had my “ah ha” moment. I am never one to catch on to subtle hints. As always the case, God has to drop a brick on my head for me to pay attention. The carousel ride abruptly stopped. I got off and began to think about my family and all the people in my life that make me complete.

I thought about Christmas. It began at 3pm Christmas Eve at St. Joachim Church in Rockport. Twenty two young women sang beautiful music before, during, and after the 5pm Mass. Two of these twenty-two played special selections on the violin and one of them played a special selection on the piano. Another four young women sang beautifully at Midnight Mass. All their hard work practicing and the delivery of their beautiful music was an extraordinary gift.

I thought about my children. We all know our children continue to be a great source of joy. They are special gifts that continue to bless us daily each in their own special way. My daughter, Emily, stood out this year. She made sure everything was special. Even though I thought enough consideration didn’t go into the gift buying, she assured me that everything purchased was perfect. She filled in the gaps that were left hanging. I’m afraid I am teaching her to be the doer.

Then I did something that I would never do. I booked two days in Cape Cod at a B&B with my husband. I really stopped. We just totally enjoyed the break.

So the lesson is if you feel you need a break, take it. Enjoy the moments—they come and go very fast. If the world is spinning too fast ask yourself the most important question of all. What would Jesus do? You know the answer, so just do it! Stop the world and get off! Patty Natti

The Arise Corner

A Season One Group Member said:
“It makes my faith and religion more real to me now that I understand how Jesus is present in the lives of others.”



SEASON TWO, ARISE: CHANGE OUR HEARTS is fast approaching! It begins the week of February 22, 2009. Don’t miss this chance to participate. Sign-up cards are available in the back of the churches. Official Sign Up Weekend will be January 31-February 1.

