

Sacred Heart Yokosuka

Religious Education



Rosary: The Third Glorious Mystery: Pentecost

And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.

Gospel: John 3:16-18

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

Main Topic: Holy Orders

#1: 73 #2: 98-100 #3: 91-93 #4: 72-74, 157-160

1. This Sacrament is called "Holy Orders" because it enters a man into an order, either the Order of Deacons, the Order of Presbyters, or the Order of Bishops. "Deacon" means servant. "Presbyter" means "Elder". "Bishop" means "Overseer". Both presbyters and bishops are priests because they offer the Sacrifice of the Mass and act In Persona Christi (in the person of Christ)
2. The Form of Holy Orders is the Ordination Prayer
3. The essential rite of the sacrament of Holy Orders for all three degrees consists in the bishop's imposition of hands on the head of the ordinand and in the bishop's specific consecratory prayer asking God for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and His gifts proper to the ministry to which the candidate is being ordained
4. Only a baptized man validly receives sacred ordination. The Lord Jesus chose men to form the college of the twelve apostles, and the apostles did the same when they chose collaborators to succeed them in their ministry. Jesus is the Bridegroom of the Church, and a priest acting in persona Christi must also be a bridegroom, as only a man can be
5. The Ordinary Minister of the Sacrament of Holy Orders for a deacon or presbyter is the bishop who will have authority over him. For a bishop, ordinarily three bishops consecrate the man
6. In special circumstances, a bishop can ordain a deacon or presbyter outside his jurisdiction, and one bishop can consecrate a new bishop
7. This sacrament configures the recipient to Christ by a special grace of the Holy Spirit, so that he may serve as Christ's instrument for his Church

8. The grace of the Holy Spirit proper to this sacrament is configuration to Christ as Priest, Teacher, and Pastor, of whom the ordained is made a minister
9. We promise obedience: in each ordination, a man makes several promises (to never marry, to pray, to live a simple life, etc) but his main promise is to go wherever he is sent
10. God promises authority: "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven, whose sins you retain are retained." "Do this in memory of me". A priest has authority to bless and forgive sins and do other sacraments just by saying the right words
11. St. Gregory Nazianzen said, "The priest is the defender of truth, who stands with angels, gives glory with archangels, causes sacrifices to rise to the altar on high, shares Christ's priesthood, refashions creation, restores it in God's image, recreates it for the world on high and, even greater, is divinized and divinizes."

Faith Focus: Vocations to Religious Life

"As long as a child lives at home with his parents, the child should obey his parents in all that they ask of him when it is for his good or that of the family."

All children naturally live the Evangelical counsels of Poverty: (*giving up possession of things beyond necessities*)

Chastity: (*giving up marriage and parenthood*)

Obedience: (*giving up being able to decide for yourself*) but you can live the Evangelical Counsels for your whole life, if you choose to, preserving the heart of a child.

Saint: St. Jean-Marie Vianney

August 4

Saint Jean-Marie Vianney was a humble French parish priest who became one of the most beloved priests in France. Born in Dardilly in 1786, he grew up during the French Revolution, when churches were forced to close and Mass had to be done secretly in barns and homes. His journey to the priesthood had many obstacles. He missed years of school because of the war, so he struggled with seminary schoolwork, especially when trying to learn Latin, and then

he was drafted into the army for a year in 1809. Persevering, he was ordained as a priest in 1815, and, in 1818, he was sent to Ars, a tiny farming village of about 200 people, where very few residents practiced their faith or attended church. Through hard work, long hours of prayer, fasting, and kindness, Father Jean-Marie completely transformed the entire town. He established an orphanage for young girls, gave away his own food and clothing to the poor, and preached sermons and catechetical instructions, which people still read today. Before long, amazing stories of his holiness and his ability to read souls spread far beyond the village borders. Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims traveled from all over the world just to go to him for Confession. He spent up to 16 hours a day hearing confessions. By the time he passed away in 1859 at the age of seventy-three, his little village had become a pilgrimage site. It still is today, and St. Jean-Marie Vianney is the patron saint of parish priests.

Keyword: Vocation – a calling

Everyone has a vocation to become a saint, but will that be as a priest? As a sister? As a parent? Our vocation depends partly on how God made us and partly on what kind of saint we want to be. The question of vocation is not “what do I want to do?” but “how can I best serve God?”

Prayer: Rosary Conclusion

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

V. Let us pray. R. O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his life, death and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Next time...See you in September!

(CCD Bee is next Wednesday at 1730, right after Mass)