

CHRIST CALLS US TO COOPERATE WITH HIM IN "THAWING OUT" OUR WORLD WITH THE CREATIVE ENERGY OF HIS ORDINARY, LITTLE BITT

FOR NOT BEING SOPHISTICATED AND SOME WILL RESPOND JUST LIKE THEY DID WITH HIM.

Jesus known too well

This year the Church has us look at Mark's Gospel. We have been studying a little of it each week in this column.

In the passage we study today (Mk 6:1-6), there is a danger we could get sidetracked on the issue of whether Jesus had any blood brothers and sisters. The Catholic Church has always taught that Mary remained a virgin, even after the birth of Jesus. So if Jesus has other brothers and sisters, the credibility of the Catholic Church would be at stake.

In fact, the Greek word translated as "brother" can mean any near relative. For instance, in Genesis 14:16, it is used about Lot, who is actually Abraham's nephew. And in Leviticus 10:4, it describes the relationship between Aaron's sons and Aaron's cousins. In Mark, "brother and sisters" probably means Jesus' cousins, not blood brothers and sisters.

Even so, to dwell on that point would be to lose the true impact of today's gospel passage. Jesus has given a rather impressive display of wisdom and even miraculous power. Nevertheless, those who had known Jesus from his youth - his fellow townspeople in Nazareth and his own cousins - refuse to believe he is anyone special.

We can fall into the same trap, whether it be by not giving enough credit to Mary, as the Mother of Jesus or by not giving enough credit to our "brothers and sisters" today, simply because we know them well. In our celebration of the Eucharist today, we want to thank God for the gifts we see in others. We also want to ask for the strength to avoid pettiness and jealousy in our relationship with others.







Creemos que conocemos muy bien a Jesús

Este año la Iglesia nos presenta el Evangelio de Marcos. Nosotros hemos estado estudiando partes de este evangelio cada semana en estos boletines.

En la sección que estudiamos hoy (Marcos 6.1-6), existe el peligro de que nos distraigamos con el punto de si Jesús verdaderamente tenía hermanos o hermanas. La Iglesia católica siempre ha enseñado que Maria siempre fue virgen, aun después del nacimiento de Jesús. Así que si Jesús tenia hermanos o hermanas, la veracidad del a Iglesia católica podría estar en peligro.

De hecho, la palabra griega que se traduce como "hermano" puede significar cualquier pariente cercano. Por ejemplo, en Génesis 14.16, la palabra se refiere a Lot, quien es actualmente el sobrino de Abram. Y en Levitico 10.4, la palabra describe la relación entre los hijos y los primos de Aarón. En Marcos,

"hermanos y hermanas" probablemente significa los primos de Jesús, no sus hermanos o hermanas.

Aun así, el seguir pensando en este punto puede que disminuya la fuerza del impacto de la sección del evangelio de hoy. Jesús ha demostrado una sabiduría tremenda y también un poder extraordinario. Pero aun así, aquellos que conocían a Jesús desde que era niño – los vecinos del pueblo de Nazaret y sus propios primos – se rehúsan a creer que el es una persona especial.

Nosotros también podemos caer en esta trampa, ya sea al no darle suficiente merito a nuestros "hermanos y hermanas" hoy día, simplemente porque los conocemos demasiado bien.

Cuando celebramos la Eucaristía hoy, queremos darle gracias a Dios por los dones que vemos en los demás. También queremos pedirle que nos de la fuerza suficiente para evitar los celos en nuestras relaciones con los demás.

This weekend we celebrate the 6th Sunday after Pentecost and the 1st after the 4th of July. It's the 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time and we're well into "the lazy, crazy, hazy days of summer" - the dog days! Chunkly, Newly, Bendito and the clan have been spending "overtime" down at Kamp Keralum swimming in the Rio Grande!

The Gospel speaks of the energy of Christ's love at work in the ordinary times and ordinary folks of our lives. Slow down and enjoy it! Enjoy Him! The scribes and Pharisees couldn't, because they were trying too hard to be sophisticated, to be big shots. Better be "little bitty" like Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Peter, James and John, like you and me!

GOOD

OLE...

...SUMMER-

TIME!



Speaking of ordinary folks, ... maybe you read already that the wise and charming sheriff of Mayberry, +Andy Griffith, died last week. Martha Waggoner wrote in the Associated Press, "The Andy Griffith Show was a loving portrait of the town where few grew up but many wished they did" a place where all foibles are forgiven and friendships are forever. Villains came through town and moved on, usually changed by their stay in Mayberry. That was all a credit to Griffith, said Craig Fincannon, who met Griffith in 1974. "I see so many TV shows about the South where the creative powers behind it have no life experience in the South," Fincannon said. "What made 'The Andy Griffith Show' work was Andy Griffith himself" the fact that he was of this dirt and had such deep respect for the people and places of his childhood. A character might be broadly eccentric, but the character had an ethical and moral base that allowed us to laugh with them and not at them. And Andy Griffith's the reason for that."

Paula & Tony Garza's fine horse, †Norman, my noble & handsome steed, who carried me so faithfully and enthusiastically in the Citrus Parade every year for well over a decade, died last week. I got to tell him goodbye and bless his beautiful, old body with holy water before he made that last ride to Heaven. iQue vayas con Dios, Norman! What a joy and blessing you were! What an honor to ride the old Oblate trail on your strong back! Roy Rogers sang a beautiful song in honor of a faithful, old horse who has finished his last ride. We played it for Norman as we patted his neck and wished he didn't have to go. Sweet, sacred, sadness! "Ole Faithful" by Roy Rogers & the Sons of the Pioneers.

Ole Faithful, we rode the range together Ole Faithful, in ev'ry kind of weather When your round up days are over There'll be pastures white with clover For you, Ole Faithful, pal o' mine.

Hurry up ole fellow Cause the moon is yellow tonight Hurry up ole fellow 'Cause the moon is mellow and bright.

There's a coyote howling to the moon above So carry me back to the one I love Hurry up ole fellow 'Cause we gotta get home tonight.

So, what about those good old Summer Retreats/ Evenings of Reflection/wienie roasts-fishing tournaments out at Kamp Keralum? Well, it's looking better than ever after recovering from the great flood of the Summer of '10! The graduates (Class of '12) had three fine retreats out there already this Summer and we're setting up the schedule for the 4th- College. The scheduling is a little "tricky"! We'll just keep signing everybody up and arrange the schedule according to interest and opportunity. It's a Summer thing! We never do get real organized anvwav!

The Srs. & Jrs. (Classes of '14 & '13) have an evening of reflection schedule for next Wednesday, July 11th. If the registration gets too heavy, we'll divide it into more days. Anyhow, we'll be calling you to make sure you know what's going on! We'll have retreats for 4th-College. Sign up at Mass. These retreats are for young men & women who come to Mass here with us.

¡Adios, Norman!

Don Seals sings, "I think God must be a cowboy at heart He made wide open spaces from the start ... He made grass and trees and mountains And a horse to be a friend And trails to lead old cowboys home a-gain..." (Maybe we'll hear that one next week!)



Oh my God! I can't look! What a sight! Our sweet old Guadalupe church is sure looking lonesome and messed up. It is pretty upsetting, but it's leading to something really beautiful and hospitable for our community. So, what's going to happen? Well, the idea is pretty simple, but the project is complicated. We'll get some sketches out in the bulletin soon. The walls in the middle section where the side roof is will move out 30 ft. on each side. We'll keep the same old, beautiful look and feel, but have much more room. The façade, sanctuary, and tower will all end up looking the same. The altar we say Mass on will be a little further out front and the high section of the sanctuary floor will be bigger. Our Lady of Guadalupe and the high altar will still be where and how it has always been. The beautiful stained glass windows will all be the same, with a few new ones in the entrances. I pray that we'll all be real pleased next Spring when it's all done! Until then, our fine O.L.G hall/ Chapel Adjunct- Summer place is serving us very well and we're all relieved and encouraged by the enthusiastic response to our move. Somebody told me last week that our hall/ temporary church is prettier than a lot of churches. Ain't that sweet? It seems like we are able to seat as many or maybe even a few more in the Parish Hall set up as we did in the Church. Not bad! We'll survive and thrive like we have since the days of La Lomita and the Cavalry of Christ! Thanks to everybody for your generosity, good will, and to all our good helpers and volunteers. This move

was no small project, but it sure turned out nice!

People are already interested in our beautiful, old short benches from the church. Of course, you've noticed that we're using them now very well in our new temporary set up. What about later, after we've all moved back into the beautiful old Guadalupe, all repaired and expanded? Well, we'll probably sell some, raffle some, and keep some. It would be a good way to beef up the building fund and we'll need to beef it up!!

Our fine "Associacion Guadalupana" has taken the initiative and raised \$10,791 for the building project with their Summer Raffle! That's a big help and inspiration to us all! Thanks for your hard work, generosity, and love for the church!

We'll all need to make an extra effort to pull it off and I know we will! If 3,000 of us each gave an extra dollar a day (price of a beer maybe?) We'd have \$1,095,000 by this time next year. Ain't that something? I'm gonna get out a coffee can and start now! We are going to need lots of EXTRA help on this beautiful project! Families, classes, groups, individuals are already pitching in and making great plans! What a fine old parish!

Speaking of pitching in... The Bishop's Appeal got thrown off by this move... So, we'll extend it into the Summer. If you haven't yet, please get an envelope and pitch in what you can. Every "little bit" helps! The response so far is a little wimpy... not typical for us here at the Guadalupe! Of the thousands of us who pray & belong here, only about 150 have responded to the Appeal! Please pitch in SOMETHING this month! (Actually, Fr. Roy still hasn't pitched in either, but he's "fixin' to." So can YOU! The Bishop's Appeal will make it possible for us and other parishes to borrow money when and if we need to (and we really may need to!).

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic School is now enrolling for elementary (Grades 1-5) and middle school (Grade 6-7). Come and see what our Parish School can offer your child. Call 585-6445 for more information.

Besides our "church" summer activities, the parish could easily act as a "clearing house" for summer part time jobs. Teenagers wanting to work could call in their name, age and what kinds of jobs they'd like to get and people looking for part time help could call in and let us know what kinds of jobs they need help with and we could help you find each other! How 'bout it? Vale la pena!

A novena for World Peace started on July 1st and ends on July 9th, at the Church 6:00 P.M. & 4:00 P.M. on Sunday.

Vhat is at stake in the Church's current struggle to defend religious freedom against government encroachment? Many things, but one of the most vital is the preservation of

that wide space in our society and culture where free peoples and institutions can operate, persuade, cooperate, and compete. When the government treads too heavily on the public operation of non-governmental institutions, it stifles and strong arms the institutions that people freely choose to establish and form. When this happens, we all suffer the loss of that dramatic and creative diversity of national institutional life that has made this a great nation.

We will continue to oppose the HHS rule that would force the Church's institutions to pay for contraceptive and abortifacient drugs. We will oppose efforts to impose a secularist conscience on religious institutions. And we will continue to serve the poor through our charitable institutions without regard to their race, religion, country of origin, or documentary status."—Bishop Daniel Flores

*14 days of prayer for religious freedom in our own country, starts on July 10th & goes on til July 23rd.

McAllen Pregnancy Center, a Catholic Pro-Life Crisis Pregnancy Center located in downtown McAllen, dedicated to serving pregnant women in the Rio Grande Valley is in desperate need of donations, especially diapers. If you have any questions, please call our office at 956-631-4585.

Last week's Collection: \$11,150.52

Steward & Stacy's Summer Day Camp with Bishop Flores & the Ten Commandments- Wednesday, July 18th, 8-5 P.M. at the Catholic Pastoral Center, San Juan, Texas. Must register early & must be 8 to 11 years old.

II III IV V We will tenderly and lovingly remember all our sick friends and parishioners at all our masses.

The Scribes and Pharisees can't believe that this "son of the carpenter," this "country boy" could really have anything profound or powerful to offer them. He wasn't sophisticated enough to impress them. Do you remember the song, "Thank God I'm a Country Boy!"? Well, Clay Walker sings about Jesus, the country boy, and we thank God He was!

"Jesus was a Country Boy

I stumbled on a preacher Sunday mornin" All decked out and made up for TV Askin' for some money from God's people Talkin' all that high theology

Well, I might be just an old blue collar There's things about the Lord that I don't know But I bet he never had a million dollars Or wore a lot of stylish fancy clothes

'Cause Jesus was a country boy Walkin' down a dirt road with everything that He owned He never met a stranger Born in a barn underneath the stars His momma laid Him in a manger

Swimmin' in the river Fishin' for His dinner Livin' with the sinners like me Makes me think Jesus was a country boy

My daddy never cared much for religion And my mama worried a lot about his soul She's hit her knees and pray for him on Sunday While daddy hit his favorite fishin' hole

You see daddy was a rebel and a rambler But I always knew he loved my momma so I never doubted, he'd make it to heaven 'Cause it's not who you are, it's who you know And daddy knew

That Jesus was a country boy Walkin' down a dirt road with everything that He owned He never met a stranger Born in a barn underneath the stars His momma laid Him in a manger

Swimmin' in the river Fishin' for His dinner Livin' with the sinners like me Makes me think Jesus was a country boy

Oh yes and I believe That Jesus was a country boy