

September 13, 2009

TRINITY NEWS

48 McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati
Tel no.: 817-9440; Email: inquiry@holytrinity.ph

PENTECOST 15

The Person(s) that we are Meant to Meet

Sometimes we have the feeling that one of the reasons that we are put on this earth is that someday we will meet a person who was also meant to meet us. We know, intuitively that it is "right". Nothing will convince either of us that it is any other way.

Jesus meant to cross paths with some people and Peter the Fisherman was one of them. We never achieve our destiny on our own. As one of our hymns says in non-inclusive terms, "Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide". But when we have something significant to decide we turn to a beloved trust person who has come out of the surge of humanity to mean more than they know to us. Jesus turned to Peter at crucial identity-making moments in his ministry. This is one of them.

There is a terrible moment in Luke as Jesus is being led away bound and deprived of freedom,

something that he would not taste again until the Resurrection. "The Lord turned and looked at Peter" (Luke 22:61). That look caused heartbreak for Peter, because he had denied the one who had put so much trust in him.

At Caesarea Philippi, Peter does not in the first instance let Jesus down. A discussion about Jesus' identity had been going on, proceeding in the Jewish manner from a series of alternatives to an ultimate conclusion.

"Who do people say that I am?" says Jesus. The disciple's response cites first John the Baptist, then Elijah, and then "one of the prophets". Even among those close to Jesus there was a variety of opinions about his 'real' identity. Then the question is sharpened: "But who do you say that I am?" Jesus is asking all the disciples in the Greek text because "you" is in the plural. But only one person responds. Peter says, "You are the Messiah". Peter's whole life had led to this point.

next page

Shortly afterwards, he tries to hang on to his relationship with Jesus, just as he tries to hang on later to the glory-experience on the Mount of Transfiguration. Here at the “watershed” moment at Caesarea Philippi, he is severely rebuked by Jesus because he cannot accept the prophecy of Jesus about his death and resurrection. “But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on earthly things’” (Mark 8:33). Peter loved Jesus and he couldn’t bear the thought of his death. It is a sign of deep love when we cannot bear the thought of living without someone. We dread losing them, and part of our identity goes with them.

But the real issue of every day is to think sanely, speak clearly, be diligent at work and focused on loving those who have loved us the best. We entrust it all to God who heals our wounds and shapes our future, encouraging a generous heart.

MAKING DECISIONS:

- i. Take counsel with trust people who demonstrate wisdom.
- ii. Use every scrap of your experiences.
- iii. Use common sense, i.e., the agreed wisdom of your people.
- iv. Know that the Lord is interested in the decision and its outcomes.
- v. In your prayers, visualize yourself before the Throne of Grace, asking God’s advice.
- vi. Consider the effect that it will have on your family and friends.
- vii. Remember that you do not walk alone. Before, during and after the decision, you have the Paraclete, “Passing alongside you and conversing with you”.
- viii. Ask God to let you help him in effecting more miracles in the world: stunning results and an antidote to self-gain!
- ix. Does the final decision fit with the “royal command” to love God and neighbour as well as oneself?
- x. Will you be a better person for making this decision? Does it lead to “higher ground?”

-Bishop Arthur Jones

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Sept 13, 2009

We are thankful to those who are ministering in the church this morning

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rt. Rev. Arthur Jones
Eucharistic Ministers: [7:30] Edison Yap
 [9:30] Andrew Malpass / Ed Burleson
Lectors: [7:30] Mary Bangay
 [9:30] Chrishanthanie Jacob
Ministers of Music: Holland Lou Buela / Domino Marcos
Ushers: [7:30] John & Alice GoHoc
 [9:30] Darlene Teodoro / Hydie Ursua
Acolytes: Patrick Dagas/Alexis Dalmas/Loren Ursua
 Eric Gatulla/Dexter Fanged/David Joaquin

Offering of the Bread and Wine & Hospitality: Peter & Janet Kennedy
The altar flowers are donated to the glory of God by: Edward Burleson

Collect: O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Scripture Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9 page 834-835
 Second Reading: James 2:1-5,8-10,14-18 page 1359-1360
 Gospel: Mark 8:27-38 (NRSV)

Hymns for this Sunday:

[7:30]	Gradual	No. 362, Holy, holy, holy
	Recessional	No. 473, Lift high the cross
[9:30]	Processional	No. 427, When morning gilds the skies
	Gradual	No. 516, Come down, O love divine
	Communion	Lord Jesus Christ (insert)
		No. 654, Day by day
	Recessional	No. 473, Lift high the cross

Your prayers are asked for:

Those who are celebrating their birthdays this week especially
Carole Vildzius (Sept. 14)
Franklin Ireneaus Longid Jr. (Sept. 18)
David Murray (Sept. 16)
Thomas Yu (Sept. 18)
Lilibeth Kawi (Sept. 17)
Angelita Biteng (Sept. 19)

Those who travel especially Bertie & Ratna Ezra; Claire Agustin;
Philip Thoburn.

Those who are in need of healing especially Beryl Tanner, Agosto Macli Sr, Rom Vildzius, Audrey Lacson, Ron Jacob, Benjie Conzales, Loy Solasco, Allan Waterfield, Jovel Llagas, Richard Kendall, Ted Whale, Merly Quiapos, Isabel Yu, Marilyn Jackson, Aris Paraman, Johnny Manning Jr, Carlyn-Fern Manning, Susan Dalmas.

Henry Johnson, Ricardo Sy, Jose Sauro, Noel Hawkins on the occasion of their death anniversaries.

THIS WEEK

Sept. 14, Monday	Vestry Meeting, 6:30pm, Rectory
Sept. 15, Tuesday	Bible Study, 10am, Parish Hall
Sept. 17, Thursday	Midweek Eucharist, 10am, Chapel
Sept. 17, Thursday	Bible Study, 7pm Rectory
Sept. 20, Sunday	Eucharist, 7:30 & 9:30am, Sunday School, 9:15am

*Thank you! Thank you!
Thank you!*

The Membership Committee wishes to thank our parishioners, Bruce and Rose Campbell and Albert and Emily Yu, for sharing their blessings last Sunday.

Albert and Emily hosted a Chinese breakfast after the 7:30 service to celebrate Albert's birthday.

Bruce and Rose took charge of hospitality at the 9:30 service and brought the sandwiches and hotdogs for everyone to partake.

We're sure that everyone enjoyed the goodies, served at the refreshment table, after both services.

Thank you Bruce/Rose and Albert/Emily for your generosity and for sharing your blessings!

	Loose Plate	Pledge
Last Sunday	P12,680.00	P20,750.00
Year - to - date	P768,736.00	P2,584,847.50
2009 Budget	P940,000.00	P3,900,000.00

Membership Committee