

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

For Adults:

How do I need patience or hope to work toward the Kingdom?

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Your urge to impress others falsely, to get what you want no matter what, to be lazy, petulant, to steal, or ... (please fill in your kind of sin), these are never the full description of who you are.

And this is why God does not rip out the weeds in people. Mixed in with all the crab grass there is handsome pasture land that God loves very much.

How about showing some kindness to the mean voices within you that itch to do wrong? Maybe they will settle down if you just love them as you would a naughty child, love them into goodness.

Imagine Jesus saying from the cross, "Father, damn these people to Hell forever because of what they are doing to Me," thus tearing out both weeds and wheat. But instead He leaves the weeds alone and says, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

Do you have any weeds? Aren't you glad God does not rip them out?

John Foley S. J

Job Opportunity with the Diocese of Oakland

The Diocese of Oakland is in search of a Controller. The Controller is responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating the financial accounting and reporting activities of diocesan Central Services Administration and several diocesan entities. These activities include budgeting, cost and financial analysis, external and internal auditing, and governmental reporting. Candidate should have familiarity with and commitment to Catholic teachings and principles. Excellent technical skills in finance and accounting, strong experience with information technology as a management tool, and demonstrated ability to work in a large, complex, and multi-entity organization and laterally across functions. Minimum 10 years finance and accounting managerial/supervisory experience. CPA preferred.

This position is full-time and includes health benefits.

Open until filled. Please submit application, resume and letter of intent to: Department of Human Resources

Attn: Gloria Espinoza - email: gespinoza@oakdiocese.org



Date to Remember

Sunday, July 27th, Jim Gilman's Farewell Party

For Children:

How might I live my life more by the upside-down values of the Kingdom in three areas where Jesus found temptation?

Saint Augustine Catholic Church

400 Alcatraz Avenue, Oakland, California

www.staugustineoakland.com

Office phone number (510) 653-8631

Weeding

Sunday's parable tells us a lot.

Servants ask whether they should pull out the weeds that have been woven in with the wheat. "No," the Master says. "If you pull up the weeds you might pull out wheat as well. Let them grow together until harvest" (Gospel).

The point: God steadily forgives our weeds and lets us develop and grow without uprooting us. It is not that He wants to encourage the weeds—it would be better if they were not there. But He is careful not to pull out our life along with our faults.

This is a radical idea, because you and I think we will be completely condemned if we have sins or faults. Entire ancient cultures based themselves on such a principle: sins cannot be forgiven. If someone harms me or my family then I have the right and duty to annihilate them, since they are bad people. Nothing can be too severe.

To put it another way, go ahead and uproot the entire garden in order to get rid of the weeds.

The heroes in adventure movies illustrate this principle. They fight, man to man (and increasingly, woman to woman), somersaulting across skyscraper tops, dispensing bare-knuckle blows to the face and spinning kicks to the head, wielding secret weapons and ever-new skills. Finally the bad guy plummets over the awful edge of a building, entertaining us with magnificent slow-motion shots of his terrified face as he heads for the inevitable splotch. Everyone is relieved and happy.

Except, of course, the bad guy. And maybe the good guy too, since there remains a thing called conscience, and brutality might interrupt his sleep that night.

Just for an exercise, pretend that you are the villain in the above scene. Is there a reason you are committing crimes that merit such punishment? Is it possible that one part of you is going haywire but that there is also much good in you, much that could be brought back to life? Maybe deep down you have a voice whispering, "I wish I could stop this ugliness and be a good person"?

If so, then you have stumbled upon the point of Sunday's Gospel. The crimes you commit don't really agree with your real, God-given self. Yes they are bad, like the weeds in the good garden, but they are only a fragment of who you are.

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Weekly Worship Schedule

Saturday Vigil
5:00 p.m.

Sunday Eucharist
8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.

Weekday Eucharist
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30 a.m.

Communion Service
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 4 p.m.

Mission Statement

We are called by Christ to love Him, to follow Him and to bring Him to the world.

Dates to Remember

Saturday, July 26th Rawn Harbor's Farewell Party

Sunday, August 24th St. Augustine's Feast Day

Upcoming Baptism Class and Baptisms

St. Augustine's next Baptism class is scheduled for Tuesday, July 22 from 7 PM - 9 PM. Parents and God-parents who are in need of a class can avail themselves of this opportunity. The Baptisms are scheduled for the week of August 2nd and 3rd. Please contact Fr. William Rosario at (510) 653-8631 to make an appointment.

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:

Gail Smith, Mildred Burns, Mary Flynn, Madeleine Shannon, Jerome Jacob, Matilda Maes, Mary Pavao, Lakey Zerihun, Gloria Bautista, Ruth Johnson, Patty Wiesner, Claudia Johnson, Matthew Laubach, Mary Lou Ihrig, Jannet Johnson, Frances Landeza, Carmon Woodyard, Hortense Atkins, and Roseanne Johnson

And those who have died in past year:

Fr. John G. Elliott, Desmond McGirl, Albert Donabedian, Jerome Mitchell, Paul Sagan, Eugene Alan Merlin, Cristóbal Kauffman, Michelle Arnsdorf-Fie Vivian Breen Manka, Fr. Tom Edwards, Rose Camberos, Adella Rose, James Jacob, and Lee Weathersby III

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, July 19th, 2014, 5:00 p.m.

Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday July 20th, 2014, 8:00 a.m.

John Allevato (+)

Sunday, July 20th, 2014, 10:30 a.m.

Jim Gilman (-)

Sunday, July 20th, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

Stewardship – Weekly Offering

July 13th, 2014: \$ 3,499 (includes EFT)

St. Vincent de Paul Society, Parish Conference:

Accepts Donations of Non-perishable Food, Bottled Water. Leave donations in the SVdP basket in vestibule. Thank you.

Almsgiving Opportunities

Here are opportunities to make Christ more widely known through our financial gifts. Envelopes (with information flyers) are available in the vestibule.

- Bishop's Appeal 2014
- Parish Scanlon Music Fund
- St. Vincent de Paul Society "5th Sunday of the Month" Collection
- Water.org

St. Augustine Parish Office

400 Alcatraz Ave Oakland, CA 94609

Phone: (510) 653-8631 ext 110

www.staugustineoakland.com

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Fr. William Rosario

Parochial Administrator, ext 100

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Rebecca Pelle, Liturgy, ext 102

rebeccah.pelle@gmail.com

James Gilman, Director, Music Ministries

jhgilman@sbcglobal.net

Jen Owens, RCIA and Inquiry, ext 103

jen.owens9@gmail.com

Linda Prara-Jenkins, Office Manager, ext 101

staugustinefrontdesk@gmail.com

Douglas Castro/Maintenance

Please join members of the Social Justice Ministry

to pray "Rosary for Peace" on the 1st Sundays of the month. Rosary for Peace begins at 9:15 AM, on following days in 2014: August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, and December 7.

Backpacks and School Supplies needed at SVdP

St. Vincent de Paul Alameda County is planning to distribute **backpacks and school supplies to 200 children** at our Back to School Open House on Saturday, August 23th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All backpacks and school supplies are needed by Wednesday, August 6th at the Community Center, 2272 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland.

If you would like to donate financially, contribute supplies or volunteer at the event, please call 510.877.9254 or email mdiegel@svdp-alameda.org for more information and a list of the supplies needed by grade level.

Thank you for helping us insure that our children have the basic supplies to be successful.



Week 2:

The Upside-Down Kingdom

Jesus' parables highlight how different the Kingdom is from how his contemporaries thought it would be, and how "upside-down" it is compared to the values of his society and ours. The Kingdom starts small, but grows to be great. It starts growing, but it is surrounded by weeds. Sometimes the signs of the emerging Kingdom can be disappointing, but we need to stay hopeful and watch for the signs that it is appearing.

[King Herod was] preoccupied with the birth of a frail child whom he thought of as a rival... the king and his counsellors sensed that the foundations of their power were crumbling. They feared that the rules of the game were being turned upside down, that appearances were being unmasked. A whole world built on power, on success, possessions and corruption was being thrown into crisis by a child!

Pope Francis, Epiphany 2014



God has yet more in store for us, and therefore we must refuse to accept things as they are. The reign of God will not come out of the work of our hands alone, but we are given glimpses of the Kingdom in the midst of our labors, and these glimpses are enough to sustain us and move us forward...

Rev. Jeffrey K. Krehbiel

**Learn More on the Website:****Topsy-Turvy Temptations and Reversals**

Jesus' desert ordeal parallels temptations he would flip in his ministry: political dominance, religious piety, and economic power. The Magnificat and Beatitudes also voice stark reversals of the Kingdom.

Hope and Change

Pessimism can shut us down in seeking the Kingdom, as John Mayer's song "Waiting on the World to Change" suggests. How do we motivate ourselves with Kingdom hope?

Songs From the Kingdom

David Wilcox's "Show the Way" tells why we have hope in a broken world; Jesse Manibusan's "What Sort of King" speaks to Jesus' upside-down kingship; Margaret Becker's "Hope in a Hopeless World" is a challenging call-to-action.

Visit: <http://gospel.link/shouldbe2>