

# *Saint Paul the Apostle Church*

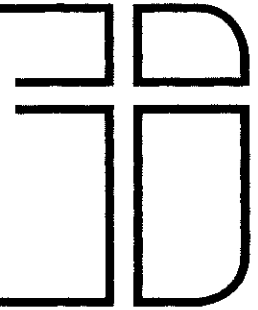
*Conventual Franciscan Friars*

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, January 16, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

May the Lord give you his peace. Welcome to Ordinary Time. The celebrations of the Christmas Season are now behind us, however, I pray that the essential effects of the Birth of our Savior continue blessing us with many graces throughout the year. In Ordinary Time, we come into contact with Jesus through his words and actions in the Gospel as well as in the celebration of the Sacraments.

This Sunday we join Jesus and Mary in the Wedding Feast at Cana of Galilee. John's Gospel does not say who the couple was that was married. We only know that Jesus, Mary, and the disciples were invited to the wedding (***John 2: 1 – 11***). It is during this celebration that we witness Jesus' first of many miracles.

To begin with, we see in this passage Mary's important role as an intercessor when she attempts to save the couple from great embarrassment when the wine runs out. Aware of what Jesus can do she turns to Jesus on behalf of this couple to save the day. Jesus hesitates stating that his hour had not yet come (***John 2: 1 – 11***), however, he ultimately fulfills the fourth commandment honoring his mother. His mother in return not only prepares the servants, but us with the words "Do whatever he tells you" (***John 2: 1 -11***). The outcome was a success which saved the couple and their family from a social disaster. Ultimately, the conclusion of this passage says it very well mentioning that this is where Jesus "***so revealed his glory , and his disciples began to believe in him***" (***John 2: 1 – 11***).

We have a rich stock of spiritual support in our Church and that is evident as we witnessed in this Gospel Mary's influence as an intercessor looking out for us and bringing in Jesus to save us. In our greatest hour of need, may we turn to Jesus, see, hear, and feel his glory reaffirming our belief that he can and will always be with us.

**Due to the high number of COVID-19 cases in our county, the San Luis Obispo Public Health Department and the Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia have mandated the wearing of masks inside the church at all times for everyone two years of age and older regardless of vaccination status until further notice. Thank you for cooperating with**

**this order for the health and safety of everyone who comes into our church. As soon as there is a change in this mandate, I will inform you immediately.**

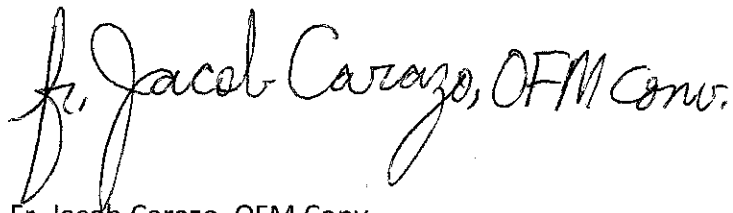
I invite everyone to continue visiting our parish website <https://www.stpaulspismobeach.com> and clicking on the links at the far-right side of the page. These links contain my weekly message and any updated announcements from Bishop Daniel Garcia and/or myself as well as links to connect you to the live streaming of our Sunday Mass on Sunday's at 8 AM. You can view the Mass live at that hour or view it any time after that. There is also a link on our website for online giving which is very safe and user-friendly.

For those of you unable to make it to Mass at this time and wish to continue sending in your weekly contribution you may do so by the U S mail or dropping it off at the rectory using the mail slot attached to the rectory door or using the online giving option described above. In order to keep an accurate record of all offerings received, please include your weekly contributions envelope as well as write the number on the check. No donation is too small and all are joyfully received with great gratitude.

If you need assistance with the online giving system please contact our Parish Administrative Assistant Christopher Garza. His direct e-mail address is [admin@stpaulspismobeach.com](mailto:admin@stpaulspismobeach.com) and his direct telephone extension is **(805)773-2219 Ext. 102**.

May you all have a blessed Sunday and week ahead.

Truly yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Jacob Carazo, OFM Conv." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Fr. Jacob Carazo, OFM Conv.

Pastor