

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Thursday, May 14, 2020 ~ Feast of St. Matthias



Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Psalm 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17

Dear Parishioners:

St. Matthias was chosen by God as a replacement for Judas after the resurrection. St. John Chrysostom has a beautiful reflection on the election of Matthias in today's Office of Readings. In it he notes primacy of St. Peter among the Apostles and is careful to point out that Peter did not select Matthias on his own but, rather, did it in consultation with the others. Obviously there were many other disciples who followed Jesus from the beginning because the new one to be added to the company of the Apostles had to have been with them from the beginning, when Jesus was baptized by John and witnessed the resurrection and ascension. Two candidates were selected and after prayer Matthias was chosen by lot – kind of like drawing straws – which was evidence to the Apostles that Matthias was the one God wanted. We assume that the other faithful disciples continued in their mission to proclaim the Good News throughout the land. Though none of us have been selected to be Apostles (special representatives) of the Lord we have all willingly followed Him as His disciples and are called to continue the mission Jesus gave us.

This is VERY late today. A 9:00 a.m. scheduled graveside service at Miramar Nat'l Cemetery ended up being at 11:30 a.m. because the mortuary had the wrong time. Rather than just stand around and wait for the mortuary, the family went its way and I went to Coronado to administer Last Rites the dying mother of a friend. The family and I gathered back at Miramar for the 11:30 service and now I'm back at the desk. Sorry this is so late.

Sunday is Msgr. William Cuddihy's birthday whom many of us know. Msgr. Cuddihy used to say the Thursday 8:00 a.m. Mass every week until his health deteriorated to the point he had to give that up. Anyway -- HAPPY BIRTHDAY MSGR. CUDDIHY! I went to buy a birthday card for him at CVS. I wanted to buy him a humorous card to help lift his spirits --- but have you tried to find a clean, polite but still humorous card lately? It's not easy. I almost despaired of finding one that wasn't so crude I wouldn't give it to a close friend much less anyone else. It's evidence of how far down the hill of decency our society has slid. Is it any wonder we're in the trouble we are? Remember, as disciples of Christ – like St. Matthias and his other companions – it is not our job to bring Christ down to the level of society. It is our job to raise society to the level of Christ.

A Little Humor:

If anyone owes you money, go their house now. They should be home.
And remember the days when we were terrified of Romaine lettuce? Ah, the good times ...

WISDOM FROM THE SEAT OF A TRACTOR:

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.
When the path you've set for yourself doesn't go the way you expected, remember that every path has a few puddles.

ACTUAL COURTROOM EXCHANGES:

ATTORNEY: She had three children, right? WITNESS: Yes. ATTORNEY: How many were boys? WITNESS: None.
ATTORNEY: Were any girls? WITNESS: Your Honor, I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

Very Rev. Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanis, S.T.D.
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