

FROM THE PASTOR

My brothers and sisters,

In the Church calendar, we have now entered [yawn] Ordinary Time. While this sounds kind of blah and unextraordinary, it is an important time for the Church – it is the *ordered* time living out and remembering the life and ministry of Jesus. There are thirty-four weeks of Ordinary Time – thirty-three for the life of Jesus on earth (His age when He died), and culminating with Christ the King of the Universe (for the thirty-fourth week) when we celebrate Christ in Eternity.

This Ordinary Time reminds us that holiness, sanctity, is lived out not in the great miracles and tremendous works, but in the ordinary things of our lives. The saints that did incredible things learned holiness FIRST in the regular routine of life. Of the thirty-three years of Jesus' life, thirty of them were lived in obscurity and poverty, the hidden life of the ordinary tradesman. Jesus' life reminds us that EVERY life has the opportunity for holiness. We can never complain that we don't have the right job, or spouse, or enough money, or enough opportunity – every day presents hundreds (maybe more) of opportunities to choose God, to deny our own wants for the needs of others, to hold our tongue, to smile when feeling down, to love when it is hard.

As we go through Ordinary Time, let us take the opportunity to unite our everyday actions to our God who came to be one of us.