



St. Matthew's Cathedral eNews

Christ + Compassion + Community

From the Dean

If the Super Bowl is So Super . . .

At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee—Mark 1:38

Longtime Cowboys fans will remember Duane Thomas, a former running back for one of the early Super Bowl teams. Years ago a reporter asked him, "How does it feel to be playing in the game to end all games?" He responded, "If this is the game to end all games, why are they playing it again next year?"

Really!? Yes, it will likely be played next year, but the Super Bowl is a scheduled event all over America. What causes millions of people desperately in need of exercise to watch forty-four men not in need of exercise? What is it about this game that causes people to host Super Bowl parties, cause schedules to be rearranged so as not to conflict with this event, that causes advertisers to pay \$4.5 million for a thirty-second commercial?

What are you giving yourself to? Fifteen seconds of fame?

At St. Matthew's Cathedral we are giving ourselves to three things: Christ, Compassion, and Community. Many of the acts of mercy that our people do each week will never be reported in the news:

- The feeding of the poor;
- Reading with a learning-challenged student at Cesar Chavez School;
- Grilling hot dogs and hamburgers for a free neighborhood outreach;
- Teaching women prisoners to dance to bring some joy into their life;
- Helping adult immigrants become citizens;
- Instructing lesser-advantaged people in how to establish a bank account and how to balance;
- Teaching Sunday School to the little ones;
- Bringing communion to a 93-year-old woman in a nursing home who can't care for herself; and
- Well, the list goes on and on.

These are our Super Bowl stars, and at St. Matthew's we are a community of Christians that shows our compassion day in and day out, not for a short-lived glory, but simply out of love for our Lord.

