

FROM FR. JOHN

OUR FATHER

“Our Father” Matthew 6:9

If you have ever been to an Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) meeting you know how powerful they can be. People who are trying deal with their destructive addiction “work” the 12-step program. They admit they are powerless and that they daily need to rely on a higher power or God - whatever that means for them personally. In order to be successful at regaining control over alcoholism, it is essential for the alcoholic to admit he/she is powerless and depend on a higher power to control and defeat the desire to drink.

One time I was at an A.A. meeting of about 400 people. About 100 people there were recovering alcoholics and the rest were their sponsors and families and friends. During the meeting, different people who were struggling with alcoholism (it is a daily struggle for the alcoholic not to drink) shared how their drinking, to various degrees, had destroyed their lives, families, jobs etc. They went on to say that they admitted they were powerless on their own, had invited the power of God daily into their lives and were seeking to amend their relationships. It was an impacting evening where anyone with open heart would see how powerless they were on their own and how they needed the power of God. For me, it was an excellent model for what church should be - a bunch of weak sinners who had fallen flat on their faces trying to do things on their own who were crying out to God for His power to live a life of love and respect.

As we closed the meeting we ended with some prayer. Right before all 400 of us joined in praying the “Our Father” together; the leader asked the question “Whose Father?” That question struck me deeply. Of course, we all immediately prayed “Our” Father. I really reflected on how all 400 of us in that room had the same Father. Yes, God is my Father, your Father, and everyone’s Father. We all cried out together in unison for “Our” Father’s love so that we could live as one family. In our powerlessness, whether it was alcoholism, greed, independence, self-hatred etc., we cried out to our all-powerful Father.

Every time we pray the Lord’s Prayer in or outside of Church it should shake us up and remind us that we really, really belong to each other because we have the same Father. On our own we are just a bunch of sinners who could never become a family of love. With God working in our weakness, however, we can come to live together in His love and authentically cry out with one heart “Our Father.” God is just as much a loving Father to the person I disdain, dislike and ignore as He is to me. The “Our Father” challenges me to love every one of God’s children with the same love as He loves me. The only way I can live this prayer is to have the all-powerful come into my powerless heart.

Fr. John



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 17, 2009

Communion Service

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

+Lourdes Saligumba
(Monina Catabay)

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Catleen Markham
(Mom)

Thursday, August 20, 2009

+Ben Ladion
(The Munoz Family)

Friday, August 21, 2009

+Kyle Linhart, Jr.
(Rosemary Linhart)

Saturday, August 22, 2009

5:00 PM-+Mike Paluck
(Julian Paluck)

Sunday, August 23, 2009

8:30 AM- +Gloria Lux
(Rosemary Linhart)
10:30 AM-People of the Parish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, August 16, 2009

Church Camp Out Ends

Saturday, August 22, 2009

8:00 AM-Red Cross Blood Bank in S.R.

Volunteer Help Needed: A Proof Reader for the Sunday bulletin is needed by our secretary every Tuesday morning at or around 10:30 AM. If you are interested, please call Carolyn at the Parish Center 503-761-8710.

Envelopes: Our counters have pointed out to us that parishioners are using the collection envelopes for contributions designated for Youth Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul etc. We ask you to please use the blue envelopes for these special donations.

Thought for the Day. . . .*Road trip? Go with the Spirit.*

Care Ministry

WOWS Dinner: This is a social activity open to all widows, widowers and those who are single for any reason. We will enjoy a 5:00 PM dinner on August 26th at Bumpers Grill at 21935 NE Halsey in Troutdale. We will have the bus, holding the first 14 callers, at the parish ready to leave at 12:30 PM. The bus ride is \$2.00. For reservations please call , Becky, at 761-8710x105 by Monday the 25th.

The key to the music cabinet has disappeared. Did someone accidentally take it home in a pocket or put it away in a different place? If you have it or know where it might be, please put it on the counter in the sacristy. Would all others please pray to St. Anthony that it be found. Thank you, holy people of God!



LOOP Scrapbooking/Craft Night

Happy Summer all you crafters. Due to everyone's busy schedules, we are taking a break from crafting this month. The next LOOP scrapbooking/craft night will be **SEPTEMBER 18TH** from 6:00 PM to midnight. Bring your favorite craft and a snack to share. Hope to see you there.



Mark Your Calendar for the 3rd Annual Rosary Bowl NW, Pray 2009 coming Saturday,

October 3rd from 8:30 AM-5:00 PM **INDOORS** at The Oregon State Fairgrounds Pavilion. The event features Confessions, Holy Mass at 10:30 AM; Rosary at 12:30 PM; Chapel at 3:00 PM plus special guests Michael Jean Poirier and Donna Cori Gibson. Free parking and Free Admission. Bring the entire family. A free will offering will be taken. Saturday, October 3rd at Salem Oregon—Save the Date!

Weekly Contributions

Amount Needed: \$ 7,032.00

Amount Collected: 8,897.49

Over/Under: + 1,865.49

Welcome to Newcomers

Anyone who is new to St. Joseph the Worker Church or who has never officially registered is invited to stop by the Parish Center during the week (Monday thru Thursday) or call Carolyn at the Parish Center 503-761-8710 and request a registration form. Once completed it can be mailed back to the Parish Center or dropped in the collection basket.

Altar Guild News: Christmas may be six months away, but it is truly time to start thinking about what crafts you will be making to bring to the craft sale. We are just certain there are many of you women in the parish who are crafty. So, please get busy and make some items to bring to the Craft/Bake Sale. The sale will take place on Saturday, November 14th. Only with your help can this event be the success we hope it to be.

Women of Faith Conference coming October 9th and 10th. Any women interest in attending, please contact Teresa Jefferies at 503-261-1159. We have 35 tickets available as we did last year. The seats are in a great location.

Website Facelift!

Our website has just been given a much needed facelift. If you haven't been there for a while go check it out!

<http://www.stjosephtheworkerpx.org>

A Big Thank You to all who took part in the Fr. Chester Memorial Multi-Cultural Family Rosary and Potluck on August 3rd. The Rosary was recited in Polish, Latin, Filipino, Spanish, and Italian. Fr. Chester would be proud.

Bulletin Sponsor for the Week

Gresham Memorial Chapel
257 SE Roberts
Gresham, OR
503-618-8176