

FROM FR. JOHN

Fat Tuesday

*"Moses said to the people: Today I have set before you life and prosperity, death and doom"
Deuteronomy 30:15*

The day before Ash Wednesday is "Fat Tuesday". For the celebration of Passover, our Jewish brothers and sisters remove any leaven from the house. Deriving from this Jewish practice, Christians moved to making sure that all the fat would be removed from the house when the 40 day Lenten fast began. Fat symbolized excess and indulgence. One could have their last chance to "indulge" on Tuesday, but there better not be any fat around on Ash Wednesday. Also, fat was looked at as sin and Tuesday was your last chance to, so to speak, "live it up and sin" before Lent's penitential season.

Fat is so tempting- and I am not referring to foods like cheeseburgers and potato chips. I am talking about when we choose to sin thinking we are going to get life and prosperity out of it. If we are honest, we are all tempted to "live it up and sin". Recently in a group discussion about the story of the prodigal son a person brought out the fact that she didn't think it was fair that the prodigal son got to waste half of his father's inheritance and "live it up" with some big-time fun doing whatever he pleased and then being able to return to his father and have his father throw a huge party for him. Well, if the son were sinning, it would never lead him to life and prosperity. Sin never does. It never makes us glad. Sin always kills the love, joy and peace in our hearts. It never leads to life and prosperity.

God offers us the same offer he gave to the Israelites through Moses a few thousand years ago. Will you choose death or life? Doom or prosperity? The way we can tell if we are choosing life in any given situation is if it leads to more love, joy and peace in our hearts. If love, joy and peace are being snuffed out, then we are choosing death.

We make literally 1,000's of choices, on many different levels, for life or death each day. Scrutinize your own life and focus on one major area where you might be choosing death right now. It could be in partying, pornography, infidelity to a friend/spouse, gossip etc. See how it kills your love, joy and peace.

God sets before you life. Choose life that you might live and prosper in love, joy and peace.

Soon in heaven (think about it - our time here on earth compared to eternity),
Fr. John



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 3, 2009

Communion Service

Tuesday, August 4, 2009

+Gerri Stankey

(Jill & Vincent Bresch)

Wednesday, August 5, 2009

Theresa Hollan (Mom)

Thursday, August 6, 2009

+Tony Papavero

(Carolyn Clawson)

Friday, August 7, 2009

+Al Ternes

(Johanna Ternes)

Saturday, August 8, 2009

5:00 PM-+Victor Errico

(Mom & Dad)

Sunday, August 2, 2009

8:30 AM- +Kyle Linhart, Jr.

(Rosemary Linhart)

10:30 AM-People of the Parish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, August 3, 2009

6:00 PM-Family Rosary Nite & Potluck

Friday, August 7, 2009

8:30 AM-Fatima Rosary Cell

Sunday, August 9, 2009

8:30 AM-Baptisms

A special prayer service,

“Prayers for Troubled Times,”

will be held on Tuesday,

August 11th, 7:00 PM at St.

Henry Catholic Church, 346

NW First Street, in Gresham.

In the midst of turmoil and uncertainty when the economic and social fabric of our lives is

shaken, let us join together in

prayer to Christ, our beacon of

light and hope. Various parish

groups will participate in the service which will include Scripture

readings, reflection, music and

prayer. A reception will follow

the service. For information,

please call 503-665-9129. The

service is sponsored by the St.

Henry Justice and Peace Com-

mittee and all are welcome to

attend.

Care Ministry

Ride Needed: A parishioner off 163rd and Stark would like a ride home from the 5:00 PM or 8:30 AM Mass. Currently she is taking the Tri-Met bus, but often has to wait an hour for them to pick her up for the ride home. She has been walking, but in the fall and winter that will be difficult. If you are able to help, please call Becky at 503-761-8710.

Knights of Columbus Campout Sausage Fest Cancelled

The Sausage Fest scheduled for Saturday night August 15, 2009 has been cancelled. This was an event scheduled for the camp out. If you are camping or planning to drive out to Metzler Park, please make other arrangements for your meal that evening.

From the Altar Guild :

Reminder Ladies Altar Guild meeting is Tuesday, August 11th at 10:00 AM in the Social Room. All ladies of the parish are invited to come. We will be brainstorming on thoughts for the Christmas Bazaar which is Saturday, November 14th. This is important to us, as this along with the money from the Vigil Candles, fund our Ministries of providing the Host and Wine for the parish as well as the funeral luncheons for families and other miscellaneous things. Any donations for the raffle and/or crafts are welcome.

Bulletin Sponsor for the Week

M 5 Plumbing Services LLC

Call Pat at 360-624-8376

**“If it’s Plumbing,
We do it, just ask”**

Weekly Contributions

Amount Needed: \$ 7,032.00

Amount Collected: 6,215.75

Over/Under: - 816.25

Discernment Weekend: The Sisters of Providence are hosting a Come and See Vocation Discernment Weekend for single women 18-40 years old - August 14th (7:00 PM) to August 16th (2:00 PM) in West Seattle at Caritas Court. For information and registration contact Sr. Clare Lentz at 206-923-4028 or clare.lentz@providence.org.

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 6 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.