

FROM FR. JOHN

You Go, Missionary!

"I did not come of my own will; it was he who sent me." John 8:42

If you were asked to sum up the work of Jesus on earth in one word, what would that word be? Think about that before reading on... Every human beings inmost desire is to be fully united in a loving relationship with God. Before Jesus came we were trying to have this loving relationship with God but we could not make it happen on our own power. We had sinned and separated ourselves from God and we did not have the power to overcome the sin and separation. Jesus came to take away that sin and separation by dying for us on the cross. By offering us forgiveness with His own body, Jesus made it possible for each of us to be fully united in a loving relationship with God. What Jesus lived, suffered and died for, then, is so that we could all be one in God; i.e. reconciled with the Father. So, the work of Jesus on earth was Reconciliation. He came to make possible our inmost desire of being fully united with the Father in loving relationship.

Jesus was sent on this mission of Reconciliation. He was sent by God from heaven and founded the mission on earth. The blood and life He gave us from the cross was the foundation of our Church that would carry on the mission. He chose the 12 apostles to be the first leader/servants of this mission. Interestingly, apostle means, "One who is sent." Jesus sent the 12 to teach the nations about the kingdom of God's forgiveness leading to Reconciliation with the Father. The Church grew as the 12 served, suffered and shed their life's-blood for the mission of Reconciliation. Countless millions since the time of the apostles, many at the cost of their lives, have lived their lives for the mission. Today, you and I are called to live the very same mission.

We are sent by Jesus to teach to the ends of the earth, i.e. everyone, that we can all be united in love with God the Father through forgiveness of our sins. We are missionaries! We are sent to spread the Great News of Reconciliation! If you are a Christian, it is not an option for you to be a missionary. There should be no question marks as to whether you are sent or not. You are sent. And you are not just sent on Sunday. You are sent every second, every day of the week.

If you would, let me offer one possible way to strengthen your missionary efforts. You know that I teach when someone asks you what time it is you are suppose to say the time and then add, "and you are loved." Let us do a variation of this response and mix it up a little bit. When someone asks you the time tell him or her the time and say, "and you are forgiven." Consider yourself being sent on this mission!

You are a missionary of Reconciliation.
+Fr. John



Fr. John's Daily Lenten Reflections

If you would like to receive Fr. John's Daily Lenten Reflections via email, please send him your email address at urldvfj@aol.com. There is no need to sign up if you were receiving them this past Advent.

40 Days for Life is happening again this Lent, starting on Ash Wednesday. This national campaign of prayer and fasting is from February 25 to April 5th. We unite with those across the US in praying for the end of abortion. Peaceful prayer will take place at the Planned Parenthood on S.E. 50th off of Powell and on MLK and Beech at the future Planned Parenthood site. Please contact me if you would like to take part. Kathi Nordlund (503) 760-8429 or go to www.40daysforlife.com/portland.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 16, 2009

Communion Service

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

Communion Service

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

+Douglas Linhart

(Mary Fromwiller)

Thursday, February 19, 2009

10:00 AM-Spring Memorial Mass

Friday, February 20, 2009

Ell Cassidy

(Joe Bowen)

Saturday, February 21, 2009

5:00 PM--Catherine O'Shea

(Peggy Serdar)

Sunday, February 22, 2009

8:30 AM--Gloria Lux

(Rosemary Linhart)

10:30 AM-People of the Parish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 15, 2009

9:00 AM- Faith Formation

9:00 AM-Bible Study

11:30 AM-Jr. Hi. Yth. Grp. mtg.-P.C.

7:00 PM-High Sch. Yth Grp.-S.R.

Monday, February 16, 2009

Parish Center Closed

Presidents' Day

10:00 AM-Bible Study-S.R.

1:00 PM-Bible Study-S.R.

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

9:00 AM-Prayer Chain mtg.-S.R.

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6

7:00 PM-Choir

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

7:00 PM-RCIA-S.R.

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6

Thursday, February 19, 2009

10:00 AM-Spring Memorial Mass

7:00 PM-Prayer Group-S.R.

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 4

Saturday, February 21, 2009

1:30 PM-LOOP'S Annual Tea-S.R.

Sunday Envelopes. We know it is easy to just drop your check in the collection basket, by using your envelope you insure that your donation will get posted to the correct number and date. If for some reason you did not receive the current quarter of envelopes, please use a plain white envelope - include your name and envelope number and amount on the front. Our counters have noticed also that several folks seal their envelopes with tape or staple them. We ask you please not to do this as this make it difficult to open the envelopes. Thank you.

Care Ministry

The Prayer Chain will meet Tuesday, February 17th at 9:00 AM in the Social Room of the Church. Anyone from the parish is invited to attend and join us as we pray for those who are ill and have requested prayer support. We will continue our book *The Art of Affirmation*. If you are new to the parish and would like to join us, please come we share books well. There will be refreshments following the meeting.

Spring Memorial Mass

We invite everyone who has suffered the loss of a family member or friend to join us in our Spring Memorial Mass especially dedicated to their memory. The Mass will be on Thursday, February 19th at 10:00AM. There will be a sign up sheet as you come in the door to write the names of those for whom you wish the Mass said. You are invited to continue this community commemoration and join together for fellowship and refreshments following Mass.

NOTE: No 8:00AM Mass on February, 19th .

Ride wanted for lady with a hearing problem. She would like to come to 10:30 AM Mass and lives on 119th and Division. Please call, Becky at 503-761-8710 for more information.

Also there is a lady with MS who has a ride to church but needs someone to wheel her from the bus into the church and back each week. If you could help, please call Becky at above number.

SOUPERBOWL OF CARING

\$1754.22
225 food items

Thank you to all for your tremendous response. Your generosity to those in need is truly amazing. URLVD!

Weekly Contributions

Amount Needed: \$ 7,032.00

Amount Collected: 8,323.61

Over/Under: + 1,291.61

Youth Group News

Feb 15 Jr High Mtg PC
11:30 AM-1:00 PM
HS Mtg Soc Rm
7:00-8:30 PM

Feb 21 GLOW Retreat
Jr High 5:30 PM to midnight
St Cecilia Church

Feb 27-28 World Vision Lock-in
HS Soc Rm
7:00 PM-7:00 PM

Lenten Day of Reflection

A day of spiritual nourishment especially for our ministers to the sick. Our speaker is Fr. Rick Sirianni, from St. Henry Parish and a wonderful speaker. It will be on Friday, March 13th from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM at St. Henry, 393 NW 1st, Gresham. Flyers are in the back of church with a map on the back. Pre-registration is needed in order to know how many lunches to prepare. There is no cost to ministers to the sick in our parish; \$15 to others who wish to attend. Please pre-register by calling Becky at 503-761-8710 or dropping the registration in the collection basket. Car pool is available.

Back to Prayer Night

Thursday, February 26th

will be a potluck. So please bring a yummy snack if you can!

Our guest speaker for this month is...

Deacon Mike Caldwell

So don't miss out!

The evening will begin at **7:00 PM** in the church.

Hope to see you there!

Found: A women's gold watch, if yours, please contact the parish center at 503-761-8710 to identify.

Coffee and Donuts: Join us in the Social Room for Coffee and Donuts following the Sunday morning Masses.