

FROM FR. JOHN

“O Lord, My Deliverer” Psalm 18:2

I sat on a rock one sunny afternoon at the Oregon coast. There were hardly any people on the beach and the only people I saw in the hour I was there were a couple of joggers who passed me by. One woman was jogging with her dog. The dog jetted about exploring everything he could about the beach. At one point he saw some seagulls and went after them. He jumped in the ocean waves after them and it looked like the dog was tentative, at best, with swimming. He looked frightened as he found safety on a rock that was surrounded by the pounding surf. He would not budge. The woman came close to the rock in order to rescue him from the water that he was terrified of. However, she was about four feet away from him because the water right around the rock was deep and swift. The dog had to make a decision - would he jump or not? The woman, with deep affection for her dog, got close, opened her arms and did everything she could to entice her dog to jump to safety. Finally, he jumped.

I think this is a great metaphor for God being our deliverer. We, like the dog, are free to explore what life has to offer. Just like the dog was tempted to get the seagulls, we can be tempted to sin. Maybe we just react and dive into the middle of whatever is alluring us. Once we are in, the raging and powerful waters of sin have the power to drown us. We look for a rock for immediate safety. Once upon the rock we are still surrounded on all sides by the dangerous waters of sin that can drown us. We are stuck. But our deliverer comes close. Our deliverer, the same one that set the Israelites free from slavery, waits next to us with eager and wide-open arms. Our deliverer does everything possible to entice us to jump to safety and freedom. Our deliverer will not swoop us off the rock against our own will. We can remain stuck or jump for freedom. We can either opt to stay in the middle of the destroying waters or jump to our deliverer for rescue. The choice is ours.

Think about a sin that you have dove in after. Consider how it has taken life away from you. You do not have to remain stuck in this sin and danger. Your deliverer stands next to you with arms wide open and a heart full of mercy. Will you jump?

Jump!
+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 25th 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 and Franklin, 2 short blocks north of Powell. We will have a sign up sheet available after Masses for Wednesdays during lent from 9:00-10:30 AM and from 4:00-6:00 PM. Also times are available at MLK and Beech at the future PP 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, March 2, 2009

Communion Service

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

+Alfred Rossetto

(Philip Rossetto)

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

7:00 PM-+Douglas & Kyle Linhart

(Mary Fromwiller)

Thursday, March 5, 2009

+Ann Papavero

(Carolyn)

Friday, March 6, 2009

+Sr. Pauline Marie Tursi

(Lucretia Tursi)

Saturday, March 7, 2009

5:00 PM-+Trifone &

Isabella Coppola (Their Son)

Sunday, March 8, 2009

8:30 AM-+Gloria Lux

(Rosemary Linhart)

10:30 AM-People of the Parish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 1, 2009

9:00 AM- Faith Formation

9:00 AM-Bible Study

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

Monday, March 2, 2009

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

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

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

7:00 PM-Family Rosary Nite

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6

7:30 PM-Choir

7:30 PM-LOOP mtg.-S.R.

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

7:00 PM-RCIA-S.R.

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6

Thursday, March 5, 2009

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

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 4

Friday, March 6, 2009

8:30 AM-Fatima Prayer Cell

6:30 PM-Stations of the Cross

Followed by Humble Dinner-S.R.

Saturday, March 7, 2009

Can/Bottle Recycling

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. Sign ups for Coffee and Donuts are taken during the Coffee and Donut hour.

Care Ministry

Lenten Day of Recollection

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.

Pyxes: I have run out of pyxes and am wondering if any of the ministers to the sick has more than one at home. A pyx is the little round brass container that you put communion in to take to the sick. If you have extra, could you please bring them back to the sacristy.

Ride wanted for lady with a hearing problem. She would like to come to 10:30 Mass and lives on 119 and Division. Also, a ride wanted for 2 people on 135th and Market who would like the 8:30 Mass. They live on 135th and Market. All are able to walk with no problem. If you are willing to drive any them, please call me for more information. Becky 503-761-8710.

Lenten Reconciliation Services

St. Rita-March 17th -7:00 PM

St. Joseph the Worker-March 21st
10:00 AM

St. Anne-March 25th -7:00 PM

St. Therese-March 31st -7:00 PM

St. Michael (Sandy)-March 31st
7:00 PM

St. Peter-March 31st -7:00 PM

St. Henry-April 2nd - 7:00 PM

Weekly Contributions

Amount Needed: \$ 7,032.00

Amount Collected: 7,728.92

Over/Under: + 696.92

Fasting and Abstinence Regulations

All Catholics 14 years and older must abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent and Ash Wednesday. All Catholics between ages 18 and 59 are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. To fast means to eat one full meal; the other two meals that day should be less than the normal amount unless they are already at a minimum for good health]. Eating between meals is not permitted; however, liquids including coffee, milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Wednesday, March 11th is an

Archdiocesan Ember Day.

Traditionally, Ember Days are day of prayer and fasting. The intention of this Ember Day is for the healing of victims of child sexual abuse and their reconciliation with the Church. To fast means to eat one full meal; the other two meals that day should be less than the normal amount unless they are already at a minimum for good health. Eating between meals is not permitted; however, liquids are allowed. Observance of the Ember Day is encouraged but not obligatory.

St. Joseph Web Site GAME:

We want you to come see our website! Throughout lent, we are having a web site contest. Each week we will be hiding a special "You Are Loved" button somewhere on the web site. Be one of the first 5 people to e-mail us with the correct location and you will win a "You Are Loved" bumper sticker and be put in a drawing to win a Buz Siefert Original rosary, awarded Easter weekend. A new location and 5 new winners each week. Go to the web site and click on the "Events" page for more information.

www.stjosephtheworkerpx.org

