

**FROM FR. JOHN**

**May the fragrance of your acts fill the Church!**

*“Mary brought a pound of costly perfume with which she anointed Jesus’ feet.” John 12:1-11*

I had lunch with a man who owns an investment firm with about 50 employees. I was blessed by what his firm is doing because it is not solely about making money. They scholarship disadvantaged youths with a private high-school education and each and every employee spends at least 1-2 hours per week helping children learn to read and succeed educationally. The owner learned the gift of generosity from his parents. He told me that, even though his parents were dirt poor, they were always giving to others. For instance, when a missionary came to town on a Sunday there would be no breakfast out because all the money would go to the missionary.

Read over and imagine the story of Mary (John 12:1-11) anointing Jesus’ feet a meal full of close friends including Martha and Lazarus. There are many things we can learn from her. Mary, inebriated with love, lets her generous affection for Jesus flow. She does not hold back at all. She is not worried about a year’s salary of 300 silver pieces that the perfume costs. Her love for Jesus is what is important and she is going to lavish it upon him..

Mary is not concerned about how she looks or protocol. She is not out to impress. She does not care what others might think or say. She lets love rule her heart and does not hold back at all. Oblivious to how she is “supposed” to act at this party; she breaks a moral code and also takes the position of a slave. Mary dries Jesus’ feet with her hair. It was disrespectful and, if you were married, considered immoral for a woman in Palestine to wear her hair down. Mary did not care. She did not hold back. Also, in the midst of the festivities, Mary takes the form of the slave to anoint Jesus’ feet with the perfume. It was a slave’s job to wash the company’s feet when they entered the house.

After Mary was finished anointing, the room was filled with fragrance. The Church Fathers and others have taken this to mean that not only was the room that night filled with sweet aroma but that the Church throughout history has been filled with the sweet fragrance of Mary’s act. I agree. I am inspired by it right now. Nor will I forget the generosity of the owner of the investment firm.

Are you holding back in any way, shape or form? It is not guaranteed that you will be alive tomorrow and be able to give.

May the fragrance of your acts fill the church!

Fr. John



**Parish Mission** - Bob Schrimpf, my best friend from college (wow - that is about 25 years), is giving our Parish Mission this Lent. An excellent speaker, Bob has captivated and deeply moved people all over this country with his love for the Gospel and God's people. You do not want to miss this. The Mission will start with FOOD on Sunday, March 29th at 4:00 PM. We will start with a potluck and then Bob will give a talk on family. Sunday's focus is the family. Then, Bob will speak on Monday and Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM for about an hour. Also, Saturday night, March 28th, Bob will lead a night of worship beginning at 7:00 PM for whoever would like to come - all ages welcome!

**Men's Morning** - Fr. John will be leading a men's morning called **Steppin it Up** from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Saturday, April 4th at St. Joseph the Worker. We will start with breakfast and close with Mass. Call Carolyn at the parish office now at 503-761-8710 to sign up for exploring how we can become better servant-leaders. We need a head count for breakfast. You are welcome and encouraged to invite men who do not go to SJTW or go to any church at all. Blessed by the BEST.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, March 23, 2009

Communion Service

### Tuesday, March 24, 2009

+Bob Gattman  
(Ketty Gattman)

### Wednesday, March 25, 2009

+Mary Perkins  
(Alberta Perkins)

### Thursday, March 26, 2009

+Mary Perkins  
(Alberta Perkins)

### Friday, March 27, 2009

+Rudy Gehrig  
(Kathi Nordlund)

### Saturday, March 28, 2009

5:00 PM-+Pat Murphy  
(Linda & Gene)

### Sunday, March 29, 2009

8:30 AM-+Julian Misa  
(Geraldine Misa)  
10:30 AM-People of the Parish

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday, March 22, 2009

#### **No Faith Formation**

9:00 AM-Bible Study

### Monday, March 23, 2009

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

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

### Tuesday, March 24, 2009

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6

7:00 PM-Choir

### Wednesday, March 25, 2009

7:00 PM-RCIA-S.R.

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6

### Thursday, March 26, 2009

7:00 PM-Back to Prayer Nite

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 4

### Friday, March 27, 2009

6:30 PM-Stations of the Cross  
Followed by Humble Dinner-S.R.

### Saturday, March 28, 2009

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

9:00 AM-Choir Practice for Easter

7:00 PM-Night of Praise & Worship  
with Bob Schrimpf-Ch.

#### **Next Class for Infant Baptisms**

will be held on Saturday, May 2,  
2009 at 2:00 PM in the Parish  
Center. Pre-registration is required.  
Please contact Carolyn at the Parish  
Center to register. Baptisms will  
take place on Sunday, May 3rd at  
the 10:30 AM Mass.

## YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

**March 28** 7:00PM

Praise&Worship (HS)  
Pizza Baron

**April 3** 6:30 PM

Stations of Cross (HS)  
Humble Dinner

**April 5** 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Mtg &Lunch (JrH)  
7:00 PM-HS Mtg-S.R.

**April 11** 2:00 PM

Easter Egg Hunt (JrH)

**April 19** 11:30AM-1:00 PM

Mtg & Lunch (JrH)  
7:00-8:30 PM Mtg (HS)

### **Spaghetti Dinner Thank You**

Thank you to all who helped make the spaghetti dinner a success. The Knights of Columbus prepared the excellent meal and the LOOP decorated and ran the bar. The choir, St Vincent De Paul and the youth group sent members to help serve and bus tables. The turnout from other parishioners to serve was tremendous. Last but not least, thank you to all who came to gather with your community and enjoy a great meal. What a wonderful group of parishioners we have. Everyone worked so hard and with such happy hearts. We are so blessed to be part of this community!  
John and Pam Hren

### **Lenten Reconciliation Services**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Advertiser of the Week**

**Vankirk's Florist Inc.**  
12550 SE Division  
503-761-2662

Visit our website  
[www.vankirksflorist.com](http://www.vankirksflorist.com)

## Weekly Contributions

**Amount Needed:** \$ 7,032.00

**Amount Collected:** 8,235.68

**Over/Under:** + 1,203.68

**Seminary Dinner:** Mark your calendar for the Bill Standley Memorial Seminary Dinner to be held Saturday, April 18, 2009 starting at 6:30 PM. As you know, this dinner and auction benefits the seminarians at Mt. Angel Abbey. Fr. Rick Paperini attends the dinner and always is grateful for the support because the needs are great. The cost of dinner is the same as last year, \$40 each. If you want to buy a ticket or want to help, please call Deacon Mike at 503-761-8710 x106.



### **2009 Annual Family Camp Out**

Reservations are now being taken for our 2009 camp out that will be at **Metzler Park August 14th thru August 16th**. Reserve early if you would like your favorite site! For your convenience you may place your reservations via the website: [www.stjosephtheworkerpx.org/map.html](http://www.stjosephtheworkerpx.org/map.html) or by phone or email.

### **Questions? Contact:**

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Duane: 503-998-5688  
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**Coffee and Donuts are served in the Social Room after the Sunday morning Masses. Please join us. If you wish to volunteer, sign ups are taken during the coffee and donut hour.**