

**FROM FR. JOHN**

## **STEP BY STEP**

*“Peter said to Jesus, Why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you!” John 13:36-38*

You have got to love Peter. He is so human! He is just trying to follow his leader and friend, Jesus. The scene is the Last Supper and Jesus has just told his disciples that his hour of glory is at hand. All along, though, Jesus has been teaching them that there is a cross before the glory. The Father will glorify Jesus in His suffering and death. That is where Jesus is going and Peter tells Jesus he is going to be right there with him. Peter wants to follow Jesus now. In his excitement and love for the Lord he says, “Jesus, I will lay down my life for you!” With brutal honesty, Jesus makes a prediction that will come true. Jesus tells Peter that he will disown Jesus three times before the rooster crows. So much for laying down your life and following Jesus.

St. Paul comes to mind about his personal journey of following Jesus. He reveals his heart and struggles by sharing about how he does the evil he does not want to do and the good that he wants to do he does not do (Romans 7:19). Can you imagine how Peter felt after he clearly denied his best friend? That is probably the last thing in the world he would want to do. But he did it anyway. He was human and he erred.

Would not it be nice if we could just do the good things we want to do and not do the sin, which always causes separation and pain? That is our leaning and longing. One day we will always do the good and not do the bad- that day is called heaven. In the meantime, we find ourselves as a motley crew on earth. We commit the same sins or keep talking about giving more service and pass up on the opportunity.

But do not despair. God offers us so much hope. Look at Peter. He was a very human being. Christ built the family of love called the Church on Peter’s very human leadership. Christ wants to build that same family through you and me. Christ uses very human beings to make the Church. Very human beings go to heaven.

Be gentle on yourself. Remember salvation is a process. Rome, the great city, was not built in a day. Holy and loving people are not built in a day. Pick one thing you are trying not to do or one thing that you want to do and work on it. Little by little, step by step.

+Fr. John

**Beloved Brothers and Sisters,**

*What a nice spaghetti dinner! Sitting, eating, fellowshiping. It was a great "RED Light" time. I sure appreciate all the work you put in. You really make it all go!*

*Indeed, we are Blessed by the Best as we slow down and gaze at all the love God has poured out in our hearts here at St. Joseph the Worker. Thank you for saying "Yes" to that love and inviting others into it. +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 30, 2009

Communion Service

### Tuesday, March 31, 2009

+Luigi Udovini  
(Ketty Gattman)

### Wednesday, April 1, 2009

+Dale Michael Kessler  
(Mom & Wife)

### Thursday, March April 2, 2009

+Bill Little  
(Judy & Henry Kramer)

### Friday, April 3, 2009

Mike Rubich  
(Frances Wenner)

### Saturday, April 4, 2009

5:00 PM-+Dale Michael Kessler  
(Mom & Wife)

### Sunday, April 5, 2009

8:30 AM-+Kyle Linhart, Jr.  
(Rosemary Linhart)  
10:30 AM-People of the Parish

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday, March 29, 2009

#### **No Faith Formation**

9:00 AM-Bible Study  
4:00 PM-Potluck Dinner followed  
by Lenten Praise & Worship  
Mission

### Monday, March 30, 2009

10:00 AM-Bible Study-S.R.  
1:00 PM-Bible Study-S.R.  
7:00 PM-Lenten Mission

### Tuesday, March 31, 2009

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6  
7:00 PM-Lenten Mission

### Wednesday, April 1, 2009

7:00 PM-RCIA-S.R.  
7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6  
7:00 PM-Choir

### Thursday, April 2, 2009

7:00 PM-Back to Prayer Nite  
7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 4

### Friday, April 3, 2009

8:30 AM-Fatima Prayer Cell  
6:30 PM-Stations of the Cross  
Followed by Humble Dinner-S.R.

### Saturday, April 4, 2009

8:00 AM-Men's Morning-S.R.  
and Church

### **April 7th Family Rosary Night Time Change**

We will start Family Rosary Night  
at 6:30 pm on April 7th. We will  
recite the Via Matris, the Way of  
Our Sorrowful Mother. All are  
welcome.

**Palm Sunday Prayer Walk:** On  
Palm Sunday April 5th at 2:00 PM  
we are joining with other churches in  
the 97233 area zip code for a prayer  
walk around our zip code boundary.  
This rally is for praying for peace  
instead of violence, for wholeness  
instead of fragmentation, for the life  
of heaven beginning now. Some  
interesting statistics on a website  
called zipskinny.com. Relative to our  
part of Portland, 97233 shows up as  
the least educated, as having the  
smallest median income, along with  
the highest poverty and un-  
employment rates. We have a lot to  
pray about! The walk will begin with  
prayer at Freedom Foursquare  
Church, 660 SE 160th. Our area to  
walk is from 148th and Division to  
122nd and Division. Flyers are in the  
back of the church.

## YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

- 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)

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** Jr High  
Youth Group invites all children up  
through 4th grade to an Easter Egg  
Hunt on Saturday, April 11 at  
2:00 PM.

**Web Game:** Congratulations to our  
winners so far. There are 2 more  
weeks to get your chance to play. Go  
on the church web site, look for the  
You Are Loved button with the  
moving heart and email me the  
location. If you're 1 of the first five,  
you'll get in the drawing for the  
beautiful rosary! Good Luck!!

**Coffee and Donuts are served in  
the Social Room after the Sunday  
morning Masses.**

## Weekly Contributions

**Amount Needed:** \$ 7,032.00  
**Amount Collected:** 7,470.95  
**Over/Under:** + 438.95

## **Lenten Reconciliation Services**

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

## **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:**

Patti: 503-895-4095  
pattiurlvd@stjosephtheworkerpx.org  
Dianne: 503-998-5683 duane-  
dianne@comcast.net  
Duane: 503-998-5688  
duanec@comcast.net

**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.

## **Holy Week Schedule and Easter Mass Schedule**

**April 9th-Holy Thursday - Mass  
6:00 PM**

**April 10th-Good Friday Service  
6:00 PM**

**April 11th-Easter Vigil Mass  
8:00 PM**

**April 12th-Easter Sunday Masses  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM**