

BBTB!

“Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said (to Mary), ‘Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb’.” Luke 1:41-42

We might feel it is difficult to relate to Mary because she is so “other” than us. More on that thought later.

If someone asks you how you are doing you can respond with, “Blessed by the BEST”. You could say you are tired, busy or stressed but why not say, “Blessed by the BEST”? What if you decided to implement this response in your life?

How many times are you asked each day, “How are you?” I bet the answer is many. From God’s perspective, which may or may not be yours, you are Blessed by the BEST. And if you speak this and believe it and believe it and speak it, I think your life can be forever changed. You will grow in union with God, get his perspective and know more and more that you are Blessed by the BEST with each breath you take. Yes, every blessing that you could ever conceive of is found in Jesus who is with us all the way to heaven. I love to say, “You are Blessed by the BEST, 24/7 like 7-11 (i.e. all the time) all the way to heaven”. Yes, my brothers and sisters, that is how you are!

In Luke 1:41-42, Elizabeth tells Mary that she is Most blessed among women. Here is where we might feel separated from the mother of Jesus. We may see Mary as so good and perfect and “other” from us. Yes, she was born without sin and we hold she lived a sinless life but she always chose not to sin. She could have sinned at any time but she always picked the way of her Son. Don’t we have that same free will? We can always choose to sin or not- just like Mary. So, you see, she is not so “other” from us. She, like us, was a creature who needed to be saved by Christ. She, as the head of all human believers, leads us all home to heaven. She is the model of how to use our free will to the perfect, blissful end. She knew fully what it was to be Blessed by the BEST all the way to heaven. And we can grow more and more into that reality as we forsake our own perspective and gain God’s perspective.

Let us pray, “Yes, Jesus, we are Blessed by the BEST in you, all the time, every day, all the way to heaven. I will speak this and believe this and I will believe this and speak it. Mary, Our Mother and the head of all human believers, help me to know what you have always known about your Son. Mary, thank you for leading all believers to the home of your Son, Jesus. Amen.”

Wait in trust (WIT),
+Fr. John

CONFIRMATION 2011-12

Confirmation will be offered during the 2011-12 school year. Any high school student wishing to be confirmed should plan on being a part of the Confirmation Program. For planning purposes please call the Parish Office to register 503 761-8710, or add your name to the list on the Youth Ministry board.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, May 23, 2011

Communion Service

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

Communion Service

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

+Bill Serdar

(Peggy Serdar)

Thursday, May 26, 2011

+Annamae Anastasia

(Mary Robinson)

Friday, May 27, 2011

All Anna Doans Ancestors

(Anna Doan)

Saturday, May 28, 2011

Daniel T. Best

(Mom)

Sunday, May 29, 2011

8:30AM: Alice Misa

(Geraldine Misa)

10:30AM: People of the Parish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 28, 2011

5:30PM-3:00PM-Red Cross Blood Dr.

Sunday, May 29, 2011

9:00AM-No Faith Formation Class

Altar Guild's annual Ladies Night Out is June 14th. Happy hour at 6:00PM and dinner at 7:00PM. It will be at the Old Country Kitchen, located at 10519 SE Stark. The choices for dinner are:

4oz. Tenderloin steak \$20.55

6oz Prime Rib \$22.75

Chicken Fried Steak \$15.55

Prawns \$21.55

Fish and Chips \$16.75

It is a wonderful time to meet new friends and visit with old friends.

Thank you to those who brought baby diapers for our Baby Diaper Drive. We will be accepting disposable diapers for Pregnancy Resource Centers until the end of May. You can drop them off in the entryway of the church. Thank you again for your generosity, Kathi Nordlund

Our Prayer Walk for this year will be Pentecost Sunday June 12. We will join with other churches in our zip code to pray for our area. We will begin with praise at Freedom Foursquare Church, 660 SE 160th at 2:00. Isn't that a beautiful symbol of unity for Pentecost! Our theme this year is "Heal Our Land" taken from 2 Chronicles, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their Land." More detail in coming weeks.

International Potluck

By popular demand, the Pastoral Council is hosting another International Potluck on Pentecost Sunday, June 12th, after the 10:30 mass. This time it's a Pentecost theme. Bring an ethnic cuisine dish representing your cultural heritage, wear red, and have your kids prepared to run around on the grass at our Red Easter Egg hunt for children up to the age of 10. Sign-ups will start the weekend of May 21-22, after all three masses. Come be filled with good food, great community, and the glorious Holy Spirit!

Mary Queen of Heaven Mission:

Through our Social Justice efforts we have invited Joaquin Duenas to speak about his missionary trip to Cebu, Philippines. Please come and hear Joaquin on Monday, June 6, at 7PM in the social room. Become aware of the needs of our sisters and brothers in Christ and the situation of global needs. Deacon Mike

Thank you to everyone who bought a bracelet in support of Japan. We raised a total of \$465.10. We are so lucky to be a part of this parish.

Catholic Home Mission Appeal

works to support home mission dioceses in the United States that are unable to fund important pastoral works including lay ministry training. Home mission dioceses rely on lay ministers, because parishes are often hundreds of miles apart and priests cannot get to every parish each weekend. Please help strengthen the Church at home through your generosity to this Appeal.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Budget amount: \$ 7,032.00

Amount collected: \$ 8,148.95

Over/under: + \$ 1,116.95

Capital Campaign

We would like to announce the start of an exciting campaign for the Catholic Church of western Oregon and St Joseph the Worker. The *Sharing Our Gifts, Shaping Our Future* Capital Campaign is being launched. Gifts received will ensure the ability of our parish to meet important needs, as well as, the needs of the Church in western Oregon.

Here's a broad overview of the campaign, with more information to come over the coming weeks:

What is this Capital Campaign

about? It is an all-parish, all-parishioner, five-year pledge effort to raise funds for St Joseph the Worker and the future of our Catholic faith. The funds are to solidify the financial future of:

- Seminary education
- Priest retirement
- Faith Formation and Catholic education our needs at St Joseph the Worker

Why conduct this campaign now? There has been a need to conduct a campaign to address financial areas for over a decade. The time is now to attend to these critical items. Every parish will conduct the campaign; several have already successfully completed this task. We at St Joseph the Worker are part of the final wave of participants.

What does this mean for St Joseph the Worker? Well, we will be asking every household to respond in this campaign. Over the next 12-14 weeks we will explain the campaign, the needs to be addressed, the way in which you can give—all the information you will need to make an educated decision. So what this means is we're looking toward the future for St Joseph the Worker. *Will you help us shape our future?*

Please give prayerful consideration if you are asked to help with this important campaign.