

FROM FR. JOHN

THE GREAT COMISSION - TO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS

How can we bring the Good News of God and of Jesus to our cities that are often so vast, so impersonal, so busy and filled with noise? How can we Christians be the souls of our cities?

There is a story about a certain Muslim -- Youssef ben-al-Husayn -- who died in the year 917. Youssef had received from his master the order to preach incessantly. He had however been very misunderstood and ostracized, and the time came when he had no more people who would listen to his words and messages.

One day Youssef entered the mosque to preach and not a soul was present. He was leaving the mosque when an old woman cried out to him: "Youssef, if the people are absent, the Almighty, he is surely present. Even though no one is here, teach the Word of Allah!"

Thus Youssef preached the word for 50 years, whether or not anyone was present to hear it. He didn't give up because of people's indifference, cynicism, absence or wickedness. He simply remained faithful to his vocation of preaching the word of Allah.

Youssef ben-al Husayn and Jonah probably experienced a bit of prophetic fatigue in their day. They continued to preach the Word of God in season and out of season.

I am sure that Jesus must have felt the same way on many occasions. Was anyone really listening to his message?

The Year of St. Paul

One of the great hopes and goals of Benedict XVI in proclaiming this Year of St. Paul is to have every Catholic hold up a mirror to his or her life and to ask, "Am I as determined and as energetic about spreading the Catholic faith as St. Paul was?"

Our Catholic faith only grows when we consciously and conscientiously share it with others. Christ will look at each one of us with his merciful eyes at our individual judgment and ask what efforts we made during the course of our lifetime to invite people into communion with Jesus Christ and his Church. In the end, the Lord will ask us: "Did you love me? To whom did you preach the Good News? How many people did you bring with you?"

The Ultimate Commission

What does Jesus Christ demand of us today? Repentance, conversion, a turning away from our own ideas about how God's Kingdom should operate and a turning toward belief in Christ's teaching and example about God's Kingdom that is among us here and now. Our ultimate commission is to preach the word of God in season and out of season.

May the fire that the Holy Spirit poured into the heart of St. Paul of Tarsus, inflame our hearts to be vibrant and effective missionaries in the Year of St. Paul and throughout our lives. May it strengthen us never to give up, especially when it seems like no one is listening any more. For it is precisely at such moments that the Lord will say again to us: "Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people."



Baptism - I am honored that my niece Annie and her husband Matt asked me to baptize their newborn son Will. They live in the Bay Area and I am blessed by the BEST to be there baptizing Will on the weekend of May 23 and 24. Please pray that Will and all our children will grow up to be faithful to the Gospel. +Fr. John

RED - Please wear **RED** Pentecost Weekend, May 30-31, 2009!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, May 25, 2009

Communion Service

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

+Alba Udovini

(Ketty Gattman)

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

+Mike Rubich

(Patty Rubich)

Thursday, May 28, 2009

Special Intention

(Peter & Lorelea Einwaller)

Friday, May 29, 2009

+Jackie Moszkowicz

(Karen Knight)

Saturday, May 30, 2009

5:00 PM-+Magnolia Oliva

(The Schroeder & Algeciras Families)

Sunday, May 31, 2009

8:30 AM-+ Alice Misa

(Geraldine Misa)

10:30 AM-People of the Parish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, May 25, 2009

Memorial Day

Parish Center Closed

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

7:00 PM-Choir Practice

Thursday, May 28, 2009

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

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 4

Friday, May 29, 2009

4:00 PM-Homeless Outreach

Saturday, May 30, 2009

10:00 AM-"Taking Care of Me"

Hospice Workshop-S.R.



Prayer Group Announcement

We would like everyone to know that the group has voted to end meetings for the summer. We will start our meetings back up on Thursday, September 3rd, 2009 at 7:00 PM. God Bless and hope to see you in September!

Care Ministry

Hospice Workshop: There will be a workshop titled "Taking Care of Me" presented by Mt. Hood Hospice on Saturday, May 30th from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NN here at St. Joseph in the Social Room. The workshop will cover: what is hospice care and what do they do? How Ministers to the sick can work with them, what can I bring to the visited person and bereavement for self. Anyone who thinks they would benefit from it is welcome. There is no cost but we ask that you register. Flyers are in the narthex and you can put the registration in the collection basket. I would like to encourage all the Eucharistic ministers to the sick to attend. If you have questions call Becky at 503-761-8710.



Pictorial Directory:

Our church will be producing a new pictorial directory through Olan Mills.

The last directory that we did was in 2004. Reserve your appointment time today at one of the sign-up locations. Each family/household that comes for photography and portrait viewing at the church will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 Custom Color Portrait. You will be able to view and select your portraits electronically from a variety of poses. Additional Olan Mills portraits will be available for purchase. Your entire appointment will normally take less than one hour. Photography dates are: June 24th and June 25th .

Back To Prayer Night: All of us would like to thank all of those who came and participated in April's Back To Prayer Nite and making it a success! We really had a lovely evening. We will be taking an extra month off this year beginning this month. There will be none in May, June, July or August but we will return in September, with Sharon Standley as our guest speaker. See you in September!

Weekly Contributions

Amount Needed: \$ 7,032.00

Amount Collected: 7,712.72

Over/Under: + 685.72

Homeless Outreach: On Friday, May 29th we will host the dinner served at the Sunnyside Coffee House. We will be feeding around 200 people and will need volunteers to help us prepare dinner and serve the guests. We have a great time and welcome you to come and join us. We start preparing the food at 4:00 PM and serve the dinner at 6:00 PM. Please call Jan at 503-254-2212 for more information. The soup kitchen is located at SE 35th and Yamhill (off 39th between Belmont and Hawthorne).

Calling All Campers! July 14th is the deadline to sign up for this year's camp out! So if you've been considering it, now is the time to sign up! There are still a few good sites left for you to choose from. You can reserve your site online or you can call or email: Patti at 503-895-4045
pattiurlvd@stjosephtheworkerpx.org
Dianne & Duane at 503-998-5683 or 503-998-5688
duane-dianne@comcast.net
There will be a camp out meeting in July. Watch bulletins for date & time.

Altar Guild's annual Ladies Night Out is June 9th. It will start at 6:00 PM with a cocktail hour. It will be at the Old Country Kitchen, located at 10519 SE Stark. The choices for dinner are:

4oz. Tenderloin steak \$20.35

6oz Prime Rib \$22.75

Chicken dinner \$18.75

(all white meat)

Prawns \$21.55

(deep friend or sautéed in garlic)

Fish and Chips \$16.75

The dinner prices include an 18% gratuity. Please purchase your dinner with the exact change. We will be selling tickets after all the Masses on May 30th and May 31st. Also, they will be sold at the weekend Masses on June 6th and June 7th. It is a wonderful time to meet new friends and visit with old friends. Every woman in the parish