

## From Fr. John:

### YEAR OF THE PRIEST

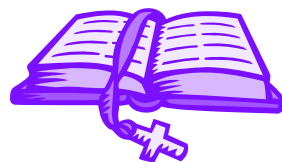
Pope Benedict XVI has declared this year as "The Year of the Priest." I am going to be sharing parts of his pastoral letter to all priests (about 408,000 worldwide) today and in the upcoming weeks. You do such a good job praying for and loving me and all our priests. Keep it up and you have my love and prayers! Fr. John

Dear Brother Priests,

On the forthcoming Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday 19 June 2009 – a day traditionally devoted to prayer for the sanctification of the clergy –, I have decided to inaugurate a “Year for Priests” in celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “*dies natalis*” of John Mary Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests worldwide. This Year, meant to deepen the commitment of all priests to interior renewal for the sake of a stronger and more incisive witness to the Gospel in today’s world, will conclude on the same Solemnity in 2010. “*The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus*”, the saintly Curé of Ars would often say. This touching expression makes us reflect, first of all, with heartfelt gratitude on the immense gift which priests represent, not only for the Church, but also for humanity itself. I think of all those priests who quietly present Christ’s words and actions each day to the faithful and to the whole world, striving to be one with the Lord in their thoughts and their will, their sentiments and their style of life. How can I not pay tribute to their apostolic labors, their tireless and hidden service, their universal charity? And how can I not praise the courageous fidelity of so many priests who, even amid difficulties and incomprehension, remain faithful to their vocation as “friends of Christ”, whom he has called by name, chosen and sent?

I still treasure the memory of the first parish priest at whose side I exercised my ministry as a young priest: he left me an example of unreserved devotion to his pastoral duties, even to meeting his own death in the act of bringing viaticum to a gravely ill person. I also recall the countless confreres whom I have met and continue to meet, not least in my pastoral visits to different countries: men generously dedicated to the daily exercise of their priestly ministry. Yet the expression of Saint John Mary also makes us think of Christ’s pierced Heart and the crown of thorns which surrounds it. I also think, therefore, of the countless situations of suffering endured by many priests, either because they themselves share in the manifold human experience of pain or because they encounter misunderstanding from the very persons to whom they minister. How can we not also think of all those priests who are offended in their dignity, obstructed in their mission and persecuted, even at times to offering the supreme testimony of their own blood?

There are also, sad to say, situations which can never be sufficiently deplored where the Church herself suffers as a consequence of infidelity on the part of some of her ministers. Then it is the world which finds grounds for scandal and rejection. What is most helpful to the Church in such cases is not only a frank and complete acknowledgment of the weaknesses of her ministers, but also a joyful and renewed realization of the greatness of God’s gift, embodied in the splendid example of generous pastors, religious afire with love for God and for souls, and insightful, patient spiritual guides.



**Fr. John’s new book** - “More of You Through Prayer” can purchased at the Parish Center for \$11.00. The Parish Center is opened Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

**Advent Reconciliation Service** on Saturday, December 5, 2009 at 10:00 AM in the church.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, November 30, 2009**

Communion Service

**Tuesday, December 1, 2009**

+Paul Tran

(The Tran Family)

**Wednesday, December 2, 2009**

+Eileen Francis

(Julie Alexander)

**Thursday, December 3, 2009**

+Blanche Bonneville

(Powell Valley Rosary Group)

**Friday, December 4, 2009**

+Blanche Bonneville

(Powell Valley Rosary Group)

**Saturday, December 5, 2009**

5:00 PM--Mary Ashenbrener

(The Ashenbreners)

**Sunday, December 6, 2009**

8:30 AM-- +Jeral Beaty

(Kathi Nordlund)

10:30 AM-- +Ann Ceceliani

(Kathi Nordlund)

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, November 29, 2009**

9:00 AM-Faith Formation

9:00 AM-Bible Study

**Monday, November 30, 2009**

10:00 AM-Bible Study-SR

1:00 PM-Bible Study-SR

**Tuesday, December 1, 2009**

6:30 PM-Family Rosary Nite

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 6

7:30 PM-Choir practice

7:30 PM-LOOP mtg-SR

**Wednesday, December 2, 2009**

8:30 AM-Adoration-Ch

8:45 AM-S.V.D.P. mtg-SR

7:00 PM-RCIA-SR

**Thursday, December 3, 2009**

7:00 PM-Confirmation Class-SR

7:00 PM-Bible Study-Rm. 4

**Friday, December 4, 2009**

8:30 AM-Fatima Prayer Cell

9:30 AM-Day of Recollection at

St. Therese Parish

**Saturday, December 5, 2009**

10:00 AM-Advent Reconciliation

Service

Can/Bottle Recycling

**Coffee and Donuts are served in the Social Room after the Sunday morning Masses. Come join us!**

## **CARE MINISTRY**

### **Christmas 'Care Packages' for Homebound Parishioners**

We are collecting things for the next 3 weeks (December 13<sup>th</sup>) for homebound parishioners. Help us prepare 'We Care Packages' for our homebound parishioners by contributing socks for 30 mentally ill people in group homes, nuts, candy and/or boxed candy for some of the homebound, grocery gift cards, hand lotion, puzzles and word puzzles, personal care items like lip gloss, calendars, McDonald's coupons, gift cards to Starbucks, Dairy Queen, Fred Meyer, movie tickets and sugar free candy for 15 diabetic people, little things you would enjoy if you were homebound.

### **Advent Ember Day & Adoration**

Wednesday, December 2nd is another Archdiocese Ember Day for healing of those abused by the church. There will be prayer and Adoration all day starting after the 8:00 AM Mass and ending with Benediction and Reposition at 7:00 PM. Please sign up for your hour so that the Blessed Sacrament is not left alone during the day. Sign up sheets will be on the counter in the Narthex.

### **Eucharistic Minister and Lector Training**

If you feel called by God to serve during Mass as Eucharistic Minister or Lector, there will be training Sunday, December 6, at 1130 A.M. in the church. Please contact Deacon Mike at 503-761-8710 x106.

### **Fleece Frenzy**

How many hats, scarves and blankets can be made in 2 hours. Come join us as we help PROJECT KEEP WARM

**WHEN:** Sunday, December 13th

**TIME:** 6:30-8:30 pm

**WHO:** Jr & Sr High Youth

### **SEWING MACHINES NEEDED**

Questions: Call Janet at 503-761-8710 x 110.

## WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

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

**Amount Collected:** 7,041.30

**Over/Under:** + 9.30

**Hats & Scarves:** The annual hat/scarf, blanket and gloves drive has begun. Please bring any of these items to the parish center or social room. Scarves are made from fleece fabric and require no sewing, and hats require minimum sewing. All items need to be at the Church by December 13th. If you need a pattern for the hats and scarves you can go to the website at [hevanet.com/projectkeepwarm](http://hevanet.com/projectkeepwarm) or pick one up in the narthex.

### **Cub Scout Needs Help**

If you are a Boy Scout and you can help a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Cub Scout work on his Merit Badge for the Catholic Church, please contact Faith Formation Coordinator, Mary Robinson at 503-761-8710 x 104.

### **Advent Reconciliation Services**

St. Anne Church  
December 2nd at 7:00 PM

St. Joseph the Worker  
December 5th at 10:00 AM

St. Rita Church  
December 15th at 7:00 PM

St. Therese Church  
December 17th at 7:00 PM

St. Henry Church  
December 21st at 7:00 PM

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### **Youth Group Schedule**

#### **JR HIGH**

December 6 Meeting 9:00 AM  
December 13 Meeting 9:00 AM  
Fleece Frenzy 6:30 PM

#### **SR HIGH**

Dec 5 Oregon Food Bank 12:30 PM  
Dec 6 Meeting 7:00 PM  
Dec 13 Fleece Frenzy 6:30 PM