

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

ST. MARY'S IS A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ON A JOURNEY OF FAITH WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO WITNESS CHRIST'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

From the Pastor-(Repent and believe in the gospel) Saint John the Baptist this week challenges us to a deeper conversion of heart by turning from sin. The people of Nineveh recognized the seriousness of sin and proclaimed a fast to God. God held back his punishment and offered them mercy.

Since the kingdom of God is at hand. We must be vigilant in fighting against sin. However, we are living in a culture that for the first time in history denies the reality of sin. Dostoevsky predicted that there will come a time when men will say, "there is no sin, no guilt, only hunger." But even though sin and guilt are not popular does not mean we should not reflect on them.

Take for example, a child, does a child not know what sin is? Let any mother say to a child, I do not love you anymore and she will soon see tears and hurt. The child knows what a broken relationship is!

What is sin? It is breaking communion with Jesus Christ. Our relationship with the Son of God is severed. We choose to love the sin rather than Him who came to show us love by shedding the shedding of blood.

We should never grow tired of the topic of sin. It was once said, Sin must not be mentioned in polite societies, In fact, we can see that there are two escapes from sin today.

The first escape is that we have lost being penitents, and accepted to be just patients. We are not guilty of anything, we are sick. So we see counsel that does not have sins forgiven, but explained away. Sin however, needs a proper release through confession.

Otherwise, guilt, like toothpaste with a cap on it, when squeeze comes out in the wrong way. Genuine normal guilt often has an abnormal manifestation. And when we deal with it abnormally, we are apt to forget, but underneath it all, there is real sin. So the first escape used today is to deny we are guilty.

The second escape is rationalization. We rationalize our evil. We blame others and dress up our sins so they don't look so bad. But the guilt cannot be covered up. Take someone with a serious sin. They may even leave the Church at having to face their sin and guilt.

What is the best medicine for any sin—to kneel in front of a crucifix and go to priest for confession. Instead of rationalizing that sin doesn't exist we can accept it recognize the two ways of escaping from our guilt.

Now how is sin forgiven? By washing in the sand as some religions do? By just doing penance? Ignoring it? What is the absolute condition for the forgiveness of sin? It is found in the 9th chapter of the Hebrews verse 22, "without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin." Why blood? Because sin is in the blood. In the blood of the adulterer, the addict, the murderer. And in order for this blood to be redeemed, the Son of God had to come to this earth and shed His own blood as an offering.

What are some examples of blood offerings in the Old Testament. First, when Adam and Eve sinned, God covered their innocence with animal skins. In order to get animal skins there has to be the shedding of blood. Second, when Abraham was told to sacrifice Isaac, the angel held his hand and a ram's blood was shed instead. Third, Moses spared the people of Israel by having them mark their

doorsteps with the blood of the lamb. Fourth, on the day of atonement, the priest prayed over the scapegoat and sent it into the desert with sins of the people to die. And finally Our Lord was lifted up and pierced as the lamb, so that Heaven could be opened. For "without the shedding of blood there can be no remission for sins." The blood of Jesus makes us free. Repent and return to our Lord, many times this week. It is the precious blood of Jesus that will change us to be like Him forever! It is the precious blood that will wash our sins away.

POPE BENEDICT: The path to Christian unity requires more than being nice to each other and cooperating, says Benedict XVI. Full and visible unity will require transformation and being conformed to the image of Christ.

"The full and visible unity of Christians for which we long demands that we allow ourselves to be ever more perfectly transformed and conformed to the image of Christ," the Holy Father stated. "The unity for which we pray requires interior conversion, both communal and personal. It isn't simply a matter of kindness and cooperation; above all, we must strengthen our faith in God, in the God of Jesus Christ, who has spoken to us and who made himself one of us; we must enter into new life in Christ, which is our true and definitive victory; we must open ourselves to one another, cultivating all the elements of that unity that God has preserved for us and gives to us ever anew; we must feel the urgency of bearing witness before the men of our times to the living God, who made himself known in Christ."

The theme for this year's Week of Prayer is "We Will All Be Changed By the Victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ," and the reflection and meditation were prepared by ecumenical.

The Holy Father reflected on the Church's commitment to ecumenism, "The Second Vatican Council put the ecumenical pursuit at the center of the Church's life and work," he said.

He cited John Paul II, who referred to unity, not as "something added on, but [which] stands at the very heart of Christ's mission. ... [I]t belongs to the very essence of this community."

Benedict XVI affirmed, "The ecumenical task is therefore a responsibility of the whole Church and of all the baptized, who must make the partial, already existing communion between Christians grow into full communion in truth and charity. Therefore, prayer for unity is not limited to this Week of Prayer but rather must become an integral part of our prayer, of the life of prayer of all Christians, in every place and in every time, especially when people of different traditions meet and work together for the victory, in Christ, over all that is sin, evil, injustice, and that violates human dignity."

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSES TO MEMORIZE: John 8:12
Again, therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows me does not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life."

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 22, 2012

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, Jan. 23	Weekday (<i>Day of Penance</i>)
6:30 pm	Confessions
7:00 pm MASS	†Rita Kirkpatrick/Helfrich
6:00 pm-12:00am	Adoration
Tuesday, Jan. 24	Saint Francis de Sales
6:30 am	Confession
7:00 am MASS	†Buddy Herron/Case
7:00 pm	RCIA
12:00 am-12:00 am	Adoration
Wednesday, Jan. 25	The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle
5:30 pm	Confessions
6:00 pm MASS	†George Simonis/Sprenger
6:30 pm	RE Class
6:30 pm	Adult Bible Class with Fr. Albert
12:01 am-12:00 am	Adoration
Thursday, Jan. 26	Saints Timothy and Titus
6:30 am	Confession
7:00 am MASS	†Alfred Koch/Helling
7:00 pm	Painting with Father
12:01 am-12:00 am	Adoration
Friday, Jan. 27	Saint Angela Merici
5:45 am	Men's Bible Study
6:30 am	Confession
7:00 am MASS	†Alfred Koch/Helling
12:01 am-10:00 am	Adoration
Saturday, Jan. 28	Saint Thomas Aquinas
8:00 am MASS	Special Intentions
3:30 pm	Confession
5:00 pm MASS	Jim Nirschl/Nirschl
Sunday, Jan. 29	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 am	Holy Hour
9:00 am	Confession
10:00 am MASS	†Wayne Willman/Willman
11:30 am SP MASS	For the Parish

PARKING: Parking has become a problem as parishioners are parking in fire lanes. Please do not park where there is not a parking space marked. If we had an emergency the ambulance or fire truck would not be able to enter our parking lot. If you don't need the handicap space please leave them for those with walker or wheelchairs.

ADORATION: We are looking for a person to spend one hour with our Lord at **9 am and midnight on Wednesday**. "For where two or three are gathered together for my sake, there am I in the midst of them.". Call Karla at 276-3615.

ADULT ED: Fr Albert will teach an adult bible study on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm. **Classes will be Jan. 25, Feb. 1st and 29th.**

LIBRARY HOURS: The library will be open Monday-Friday from 8:00AM-Noon. Please check to see if you have library materials at home. Many things are overdue. Questions call Ann Vescio @ 541-278-8616 or E-mail at annvescio@q.com. Thank you.

DDA RETREAT: High School Youth please register for the upcoming HS Retreat. Deadline Feb. 10, 2012. For registration and Medical release call Patti at 541-388-4004 she will mail you the form.

ORGANIST: We are looking for someone to play the organ during Masses. If you know of anyone please let Father Clemens know.

PRO-LIFE WEBSITES: Some good life websites are: lifesitenews.com, all.org, priestforlife.org, hli.org. All these websites are dedicated to promoting pro-life causes and reporting the pro life message.

PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST: Breakfast will be served downstairs this Sunday from 9:00—11:30 am. Come and support our Right To Life Group and Knights.

WEBSITE!! Our website is up and running—stmaryspendleton.org. or gwestcatholicmen.com

Our new e-mail address is saintmary@qwestoffice.net

BOOK OF MONTH: The book *Mother Teresa of Calcutta* by Monsignor Leo Maasburg gives us such great insight into this very human and very holy saint. In it, he not only shows us why Mother Teresa was a saint, but points the way for us also to become saints: become people of prayer. In this person portrait of the beloved nun, he presents fifty amazing stories about her that most people have never heard, wonderful and delightful stories about miracles, small and great, that he was privileged to experience at Mother Teresa's side. Stories of how, without a penny to her name, she started an orphanage in Spain and at the same time saved a declining railroad company from ruin, and so many more. They all tell of her limitless trust in God's love, of the way the power of faith can move mountains, and of hope that can never die.

Altar Servers for Jan 28-29

5:00 pm	Bradon, Jacob & Elijah Sprenger
10:00 am	Seth & Peter Case/Remington Christensen
11:30 am	Jonathan Lopez

We Would Like To Welcome You To Our Parish Family

If you are new to the Parish, please fill out your name and address below. We would love to add you to our Parish Family. Please visit us at the Parish Office or mail this form to us or place it in the collection basket.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

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