

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

COFFEE & DONUTS after the 10:00 Mass downstairs in the Hall. Thank you Knights of Columbus for serving coffee & donuts this month. Thanks to The ALTAR SOCIETY for cleaning the Altar area.

From the Pastor:

"Urge all souls to trust in the unfathomable abyss of my mercy" (God to Saint Faustina). Divine Mercy Sunday once again leads us to strengthen our knowledge of mercy. Just as Thomas doubted Jesus in faith so do many Catholics doubt God's mercy. Why is mercy misunderstood today? What may be the causes? Maybe it hasn't been preached enough. Maybe it needs to be repeated so we learn. Maybe our minds have been overrun with justice and we fail to experience mercy.

What is mercy? We read in the responsorial psalm, "His mercy endures forever"! Mercy is a great mystery. The word blinds us in fact. Mercy goes beyond reason. Where justice says "punish", mercy says "forgive". Where justice says "this is a debt", mercy says "dismiss the debt". Real mercy is costly. It goes to the end without counting the cost. It is Jesus in the parable of the lost sheep. Sheep are easily lost. They don't go in circles like goats they walk straight. If you want to find them you need to go after them. When you find them you bring them back to the flock. Jesus wants to bring us back when we stray through sin. His mercy is always there to forgive and dismiss the debt. For mercy goes beyond justice, but does not do away with it. Your are just with God after you receive his mercy in the sacrament of penance.

Jesus laid down his life for us so that we would have mercy. We must live at this level, "blessed are the merciful for they will find mercy". How is our life blessed when we live of mercy. 1)It is blessed by God in this life every time we extend ourselves in mercy— "it is more blessed to give than receive". All who are merciful to others in this life are blessed by receiving mercy from God. 2) Mercy is also blessed from humans in this life. Everyone loves a giving person. The unjust steward in Luke dismisses the debt of his creditors and obtained their mercy. People are merciful to the merciful. 3) Mercy is also blessed by God in the next life. God's heavenly rewards for our earthly mercy are natural and necessary. We will be judged if we are unmerciful, "For the judgment is merciless to one who has not shown mercy: mercy triumphs over judgment". God cannot give mercy to a human who has a hardened heart. 4)Finally, we will receive mercy from our brethren in the next life. Christ clearly taught in the parable of the unjust steward: "And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations". In other words, our brethren in the next life will express gratitude to us for our mercy.

Therefore, unless we forgive, we fight. We must decide to live by mercy. We cannot fulfill the law of justice except by going beyond it to mercy, forgiveness and charity. God's demand of mercy and love drives us to only one possible end: Christ himself.

UNDERSTANDING THE MASS: Singing: Responsorial

Psalm: It is preferable that the responsorial Psalm be sung, at least as far as the peoples' response is concerned. To fulfill this functions correctly, it is necessary that the psalmist have the ability to sing and a facility in correct pronunciation and diction.

THIS WEEK: Fr. Clemens will say mass on Monday morning at 7:00 am. There will be no masses until Saturday morning at 8:00 am. Fr. Clemens will be attending the annual diocesan priest retreat.

PRO-FAMILY: Congressional Resolution 92 will receive an up or down vote on or before April 17, which is the National Day of Silence—a day when student across America are encouraged to show their support for the homosexual community by refusing to speak. The resolution seeks to affirm congressional support for the event and encourage local education authorities to adopt policies that prevent bullying based on sexual orientation. Laura Higgins urges concerned citizens to contact their congressmen and strongly express their concern. The resolution, she argues, is an outrage, and adds that Congress has no right to take a position on this issue, which is being pushed by a group known as GLSEN or the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network. GLSEN has particular political goals. They go much farther beyond ending bullying to attempting to transform students' views on the nature and morality of homosexuality. The IFI is also encouraging parent to pull their kids out of school for the day if their school is participating in the Day of Silence on April 17.

"MOTHER'S DAY" is coming up quickly, and again we will be selling Roses for Life. Thank your mother for choosing life and surprise her with beautiful red or pink rose! They will cost \$10/6 roses or \$15/12 roses. Valerie will be taking orders after all masses for the next two week-ends and the roses will be available for pickup after all masses on Mother's day weekend of May 9 & 10.

PARISH ASSESSMENT:Please help us in attaining our assessment of \$27,900 which is set by the Diocese. We have collected to date \$26,060.85. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Mary's on-line: The website is stmaryspendleton.org

WOMEN'S DAY OF DESERT: Please sign up in the back of the church for the Women's Day of Desert which will be held on May 30.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 19 2009

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAY, April 20

7:00 am MASS †Dave Stillman/Florence Stillman

6:00 pm-12:00 am ADORATION

TUESDAY, April 21

7:00 am NO MASS

7:00 pm KnightLife

12:01 am-12:00 am ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, April 22

6:00 pm NO MASS

6:30 pm RE Classes & Adult Ed Class

12:01 am-12:00 am ADORATION

THURSDAY, April 23

7:00 am NO MASS

12:01am-12:00 am ADORATION

FRIDAY, April 24

5:45 am Men's Bible & Faith Study

3:00 pm-9:00 pm Directory Pictures

7:00 am NO MASS

12:01 am-10:00 am ADORATION

SATURDAY, April 25

8:00 am MASS Special Intention/Fr. Clemens

9:00 am 1st Communion Retreat

10:00 am-5:00 pm Directory Pictures

3:30 pm Confession

4:30 pm Rosary

5:00 pm MASS Christine Wilken/Mary Harris

SUNDAY, April 26 1st Communion Sunday

8:00-9:00 am Holy Hour

9:00 am Confessions

9:30 am Rosary

10:00 am MASS For the Parish

11:30 am(sp) MASS Martin Molina Jr./Angelina

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: To provide services to terminally ill patients and their families. Training starts in early May. Registration required. Please call 1-541-276-4100 St. Anthony's Hospice.

BOOK OF MONTH: In the late nineteenth century, Father Charles Arminjon, a priest from the mountains of France, preached a series of conferences to help his people turn their thoughts away from this life's mean material affairs—and toward the next life's glorious spiritual reward. His wise and uncompromising words deepened in them the spirit of recollection that all Christians must have: the abiding conviction that heavenly aims, not temporal enthusiasms, must guide everything we think, say and do. This is the book that Therese Martin, read at age 14 on entering the Carmelite convent in Lisieux. Reading it, she says, "plunged my soul into a happiness not of this earth." Young Therese, filled with a sense of "what God reserves for those who love Him, and seeing that the eternal rewards had no proportion to the light sacrifices of life," Now the very book, *The End of the Present World*, that so inspired the Little Flower is available in English.

PICTURE DIRECTORY: Dates for pictures will be April 24-25, 28-29. We need everyone to participate in this picture directory.

Breakfast-May 3

"PENNIES FOR HEAVEN" The Knights of Columbus will be collecting pennies and any loose change after each Mass this week to support seminarians.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: There are scholarships available for youth who would like to attend summer camps or Stubenville conference in Spokane. Contact Nicole Petrie at 278-8080 or Father at 276-3615.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP: There are many scholarship available for youth attending or beginning college this fall. Please stop by the office and pick up the forms they are due April 15.

Altar Servers for April 25-26

Saturday 5:00 pm: Logan Thorne & Quinn Doherty

10:am: Branden & Jacob Sprenger & Garret Valiant

11:30am: Mitchell Montachalin

Eucharistic Min. April 25-26

Saturday 5 pm: John Bjorkland & Patrick Feller

10:00 am: Betty Cleveland & Phyllis Ritz

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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