

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

Come join us downstairs for coffee & donuts after Sunday's Mass.

From the Pastor:

On this Second Sunday in Ordinary time we return to the wedding of Cana. This Gospel of John offers us several points for growth in our faith. First, Christ performs his first miracle at the beginning of His ministry. Second, He performs the miracle at a wedding. Third, the Blessed Virgin Mary is seen as an intercessor.

Why was it necessary for Christ to perform a miracle? Miracles are usually given to strengthen the faith of the individual. They may be allowed to spark someone's faith back to life. They should not however, be seen as the norm. Jesus warned Thomas, "Blessed are those who do not see and yet believe." Very often we would like Jesus to give us a miracle. However, He manifests His presence in a quiet way, un-visible and hidden in the Sacraments. Nevertheless, every now and then Christ performs miracles to shows us his power over nature. This miracle at Cana demonstrates this power in changing of water into wine.

Next we see He performs the miracle at a wedding. Picture the couple preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage and a miracle occurs. Did Jesus want to upstage the ceremony? Certainly not, but He did want to bless it with the miracle and the abundance of wine. Today Jesus continues to bless marriages. Couples still need the grace to love one another and raise a family.

Marriage must be defended. We would have never fathomed having to defend marriage between a man and a woman. But once again we can go back to the nature that God intended. Marriage between a man and woman are in harmony with the nature He created. Same-sex marriage goes against nature.

Finally, we see at the wedding of Cana, Mary's intercession. She says, "They have no wine!" Note first her kindness and mercy. Because the Blessed Mother is full of mercy, she desired to relieve the stress of others. Note secondly, her reverence for Christ. It is because of our reverence for God that we can lovingly express our needs to Him. Third, note the Virgin's care and concern. For she did not wait until they were in extreme need.

Ultimately, the wine signifies the abundance of good things God will give us if we are faithful to Him. "The charity of God was poured out into our hearts" (Rom5:5). Let us reflect God's goodness in our lives and help others discover His Presence.

UNDERSTANDING THE MASS: THE ALTAR: Candles: Candles, which may be wax or oil, are required at every liturgical service and are to be appropriately placed either on or around the altar. **Number of Candles to be used:** On or next to the altar are to be placed candlesticks with lighted candles: at least two in any celebration, or even four or six, especially for a Sunday Mass or holy day of obligation. If the Diocesan Bishop celebrates, then seven candles should be used.

POPE BENEDICT: Benedict XVI says efforts to protect the environment cannot be opposed to human life and safeguarding the dignity of the person. He noted not humanity in this new year "continues to be marked by the dramatic crisis of the global economy and consequently a serious and widespread social instability." The "deeper causes" of this situation, the Pontiff contended, "are to be found in a current self-centered and materialistic way of thinking which fails to acknowledge the limitations inherent in every creature." This same way of thinking, Benedict XVI proposed, also endangers creation. He explained: "Each of us could probably cite an example of the damage that this has caused to the environment the world over. I will offer an example, twenty years ago, after the fall of the Berlin wall and the collapse of the materialistic and atheistic regimes which had for several decades dominated a part of this continent, was it not easy to assess the great harm which an economic system lacking any reference to the truth about man had done not only to the dignity and freedom of individuals and peoples, but to nature itself, by polluting soil, water and air? The denial of God distorts the freedom of the human person, yet it also devastates creation. "It follows that the protection of creation is not principally a response to an aesthetic need, but much more to a moral need, in as much as nature expresses a plan of love and truth which is prior to us and which comes from God." The Pope said because of this, he shares the "growing concern" caused by "economic and political resistance to combating the degradation of the environment." "The issue is all the more important in that the very future of some nations is at stake, particularly some island states," he said. Nevertheless, "If we wish to build true peace," he said, "how can we separate, or even set at odds, the protection of the environment and the protection of human life, including the life of the unborn? It is in man's respect for himself that his sense of responsibility for creation is shown." Citing St. Thomas Aquinas, the Holy Father said that "man represents all that is most noble in the universe." "Furthermore," he affirmed, "as I noted during the recent FAO World Summit on Food Security, 'the world has enough food for all its inhabitants' provided that selfishness does not lead some to hoard the goods which are intended for all."

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSES TO MEMORIZE: Mt 3:9 and do not think to say within yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father': for I say to you that God is able out of these stones to raise up children to Abraham. **Acts 7:2** Then he said, "Brethren and fathers, hear, The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he settled in Haran.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17, 2010

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, Jan. 18 (Weekday 2)

7:00 pm Mass Tricia Roscoe/Georgia Herbes

6:00 pm-12:00 am Adoration

Tuesday, Jan. 19 (Weekday 2)

7:00 am Mass †Maurine Chadwick/Mary Pat McCarton

7:00 pm RCIA

7:00 pm 4th Degree Knights of Columbus

12:01 am-12:00 am Adoration

Wednesday, Jan. 20 Saint Fabian & Saint Sebastian

5:15 pm Confession

6:00 pm Mass †Thesla Bennett/Mary Harris

6:30 pm RE & Adult Classes

12:01 am-12:00 am Adoration

Thursday, Jan. 21 Saint Agnes

7:00 am Mass †Jacob Penner/Jeff & Nancy Burnett

7:00 pm Servants of Mary Mother of Mercy

12:01am-12:00 am Adoration

Friday, Jan. 22 (Weekday 2)

5:45 am Men's Bible Study

7:00 am Mass Bob & Pat Smith/Mary Harris

12:01 am-10:00 am Adoration

Saturday, Jan. 23 (Weekday 2)

8:00 am Special Intention/Fr. Clemens

3:30 pm Confession

4:30 pm Rosary

5:00 pm †David Howe/Rosey & Mary Pat

Sunday, Jan. 24 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00-9:00 am Holy Hour

9:15 am Confessions

9:30 am Rosary

10:00 am Mass Fr. John Bustamante/Nancy & Jeff Burnett

11:30 am Mass (Sp) For the Parish

PRO-LIFE: "It's About Life Conference" **When:** Saturday, February 6 **Where:** St. Joseph Church, Kennewick, WA **Time:** 9:30 AM- 4:00 PM **Cost:** The conference will cost \$10.00/person or \$25.00/family. Lunch will be offered by Cinco de Mayo in the PAC for an additional \$9.00/person. **Featured Speakers:** Abby Johnson, former director of Planned Parenthood; Professor Janet Smith, noted NFP speaker- "Contraception: Why not?"; Fr. Habiger, of Natural Family Planning Outreach Ministries **Contact:** David Haren 509 582-3932

ST. MARY'S ON-LINE:The website is stmaryspendleton.org

DAY BY DAY AGAPE RETREAT: **Where:** Powell Butte Retreat Center **When:** President's Day Weekend Feb. 12-15th **Cost:** \$85 **Why:** To grow in faith and spread God's Unconditional Love! For Registration forms go to www.dioceseofbaker.org or from RE Office.

ADORATION: We are looking for a person to spend one hour with our Lord at 3 am on Friday, 8 pm on Wednesday, 1 am on Thursday, and 4 am Tuesday. "For where two or three are gathered together for my sake, there am I in the midst of them." Call Karla at 276-3615.

BOOK OF THE MONTH: In *The Biblical Basis for Purgatory*, author and apologist John Salza offers the definitive scriptural explanation of this distinctively Catholic doctrine. Building on the teachings of Christ and St. Paul, he shows how the existence of a place of temporal punishment after death is not only a logical extension of what we know about the reality of sin and God's justice, but is also a supreme expression of God's love and mercy. Jesus taught us about it, and for centuries the Church has faithfully defined and defended it. It is purgatory: that place of purifying penance where souls saved by Christ are made perfect and acceptable to spend life eternal in heaven.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: The Knights will have a Breakfast on Sunday, January 24 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. It helps to benefit the Pro-Life organizations in Pendleton. Come help support this great cause.

Altar Servers for January 23-24

Jan. 16 5:00 pm Seth & Peter Case & Walker Hoolenhan

Jan. 17 10:00 am Daniel & John Kubishta & Soren Wolf

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 _____

St. Mary's Church 800 SE Court Pendleton, OR 97801