

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:14-15 (82A)
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 GOSPEL: Matthew 6:24-34

FATHER KEN'S KORNER

Some Practical Questions

About Holy Communion Answered: Part 3

For the past two weeks I have been addressing some common questions about communion reception within the Mass. Two weeks ago the topic was on practical guidelines for things to avoid when receiving the Eucharist as a general rule. And in the last two segments the focus has shifted to when we should refrain from receiving communion altogether. Last week I focused specifically on why, respectfully, we do not admit non-Catholic guests to communion and why this regulation is ultimately not a question of hospitality but one of faith and community membership. This final segment will focus on the practice of refraining from receiving communion when we are knowingly in a state of mortal/serious sin.

St. John tells us in his 1st Letter that there are essentially two classifications for sin. There is sin which is harmful to our relationship with God but which is not lethal (a.k.a. venial sin) and there is deadly sin that is more serious and that kills the life of grace in our souls (a.k.a. mortal sin). As he puts it, "There is sin that is mortal...All wrongdoing is sin but there is sin that is not mortal" (See 1st John 4:16-17). In our Catholic tradition, we use this distinction in prescribing two separate pathways of preparation for receiving the Eucharist. Proverbs 24:16 reminds us that even the righteous man sins seven times a day. Therefore, we can safely presume that all who are gathered to participate in the Mass have sin on their soul. When these sins are venial or lesser sins, before we receive the Eucharist, we acknowledge and address them by participating in reciting the Confiteor. By saying, "I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do...etc." we are essentially completing a public confession. These words are followed by a minor absolution from the celebrant of the Mass. This process is sufficient for preparing the communicant with venial sin on their soul for reception of the Eucharist. In addition, though, even if one never commits a mortal

sin, all Catholics are asked to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once per year.

However, what should we do if we knowingly have more serious sin on our soul? Ultimately, as we did last week, we turn to St. Paul in 1 Cor. again, in 11:27-28, where we read, "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup." In plain English, the Church interprets this passage to mean that, before we receive communion, we should examine our conscience and should only receive communion if our conscience is clear of serious sin. If we are aware that we have committed serious (mortal) sin, we should first celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before presenting ourselves for the sacrament of the Eucharist. If we do not, as St. Paul says, we eat and drink judgment on ourselves. Put another way, when we receive the Eucharist while in a state of mortal sin, rather than receiving the grace of the sacrament as God intended, we actually incur another sin...the sin of sacrilege.

How does this impact those who are civilly but not sacramentally married or those who have been married outside the Church without proper dispensation? In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, "Whoever divorces his wife (unless the marriage is unlawful) causes her to commit adultery and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery." This is a loaded passage, but the traditional interpretation by the Church is this... An "unlawful" marriage is one that is deemed to be outside the sacraments or, in other words, something that God did not join together and is therefore considered a mortal sin. A person in this circumstance should refrain from receiving the sacraments until their marriage has been properly, sacramentally blessed. Divorce does not exclude one from the sacraments but remarriage might if the process has not been done properly within the confines of the Church through the annulment process. If you have any questions about your particular situation, please contact our office for an appointment.

LENT REGULATIONS/PARTIAL SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday – March 5th Mass with Ashes –
7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. (school), 5:30 p.m.
and at 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass in Church and in Hall

Stations of the Cross: Fridays 5:30 p.m. English
7:00 p.m. Spanish

Soup Supper in Hall: Fridays 6:00 p.m.

Confessions:

Saturdays: 3:00 to 5:15 p.m.

Reconciliation Services:

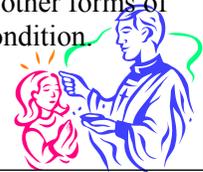
Tuesday, April 1, 10:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart
Tuesday, April 1, 7:00 p.m. Shepherd of the Valley
Wednesday, April 2, 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart
Thursday, April 3, 7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mountain
Tuesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m. at St. Anne's, Grants Pass
Wednesday, April 9, 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph's, Roseburg

LENT BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY

All Fridays of Lent are days of **abstinence** - refraining from eating meat by all Catholics ages 14 and older.

Fast and Abstinence on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday is to be observed by all Catholics ages 18-59 (inclusive). One full meal is allowed with two smaller meals; together they should not equal a full meal. No eating between meals, liquids are allowed.

Note: A person unable to fast due to ill health or other serious reasons, are urged to practice other forms of self-denial that are suitable to their condition.



“Let us go back to the Lord. The Lord never tires of forgiving; never! It is we who tire of asking his forgiveness. Let us ask for the grace not to tire of asking forgiveness, because he never tires of forgiving.” — Pope Francis

Living the Eucharist



The final year of the Lenten study, *Living the Eucharist*, is about to begin! Through participation in small group gatherings, participants will learn about and discuss topics related to the Eucharist and prepare for the upcoming Sunday Mass by prayerfully reflecting on the Sunday Mass readings.

Small groups will meet weekly in the Parish Hall from **March 3 - April 8:**

Monday evenings: 6:45 - 8:15

Tuesday afternoons: 1:00 - 2:30

There is still time to sign up!

Please call Sylvia Stephenson at 541 301-9499 or BJ Buxton at 541 772-8292.

This Lent, please share your gifts and your faith in a *Living the Eucharist* faith-sharing group! Experience why this has been such a popular Lenten study in our parish. Discover the quiet moments of Easter hope. For more information, please call Sylvia Stephenson at 541 301-9599 or BJ Buxton at 541 772-8292.

Ash Wednesday we will take up the **Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe**. This Collection supports Catholic organizations that provide affordable shelter and training for seminarians in a region that still struggles with the effects of Soviet rule.

By providing pastoral care, catechesis, and funding for building renovations, your donations help to **restore the Church and build the future** in the region. Please give generously. Visit www.usccb.org (search “Church in Central and Eastern Europe”) to learn more.

Financial Report

	2/16/2014	2/17/2013
Total Offertory received- this week	\$13,489.96	\$14,467.75
Offertory Received -Year to Date	\$601,141.18	\$625,727.11
Needed for Budget	\$595,824.56	\$593,396.22
Over (under) Budget	\$5,316.62	\$3,330.89

God gives it all, then calls us to share. Thank you for sharing!

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



“Have a Holy Hour every week. Start praying. Pray for guidance and trust in God.”

~ St. John Vianney

Please sign up for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Call Dan and Sarah Rice at 541-582-3717 for information.

WORK PARTY AT SACRED HEART!

Spring Clean-up will be on Saturday, March 29th from 9:30 to 1:00. Lunch will be provided. There will be a variety of jobs both in the hall and on the grounds. More detailed information will follow. Please call the office if you are able to help on this day.

BREAKFAST IN HALL

Next Sunday, March 9 the Hispanic group -- MFC is hosting a breakfast after the 7:00 and 8:30 a.m. Masses.



Pancakes, ham and eggs. All proceeds benefit a future State wide meeting to be held here.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES RICE BOWL

Our parish will be participating in CRS Rice Bowl, as a way to encounter Jesus through others, especially through the most vulnerable in our world. Rice Bowls will be available on Ash Wednesday. Please be sure to take home a Rice Bowl and use this fun and easy resource to deepen your family's Lenten experience and make a difference in the lives of the poor.



7:00 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. March 3: Connie Hanker
T. March 4: +Margaret Welk
W. March 5: Ash Wednesday
Th. March 6: +Jack Walker
Fri. March 7: John & Madeline Kosmatka

8:30 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. March 3: The Batzer Family
T. March 4: Catholic Daughters
W. March 5: Ash Wednesday
Th. March 6: Joan Bain
Fr. March 7: +Hubert Van Bellegham
Sat. March 8: +Larry Robins

Oregon 2014 Citizens Initiative

STOP TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION

Today, more than 4 in 10 abortions -- approximately 4,000, are fully paid for by Oregon taxpayers. This Citizens Initiative will not restrict a woman's legal ability to choose abortion, but it will insure that taxpayers who are morally or fiscally opposed to paying for abortions will no longer be forced to. In the next weeks the Jackson County Right to Life will have volunteers here, and across Southern Oregon collecting signatures to get this petition on the ballot.

Follow us/like us on Facebook at the Jackson County Right to Life page... Contact Sanda Collegio at 541-779-8587 and lsanda4life@gmail.com to volunteer.

PLEASE PRAY for the sick of our parish especially: Sharon Anderson, Bert Oman, Eileen Van Dyck, Retha Brophy, Patti Otto, John Zeleznik, Joan Bain, Linda Blixt, Jeff Leroy, William Cummings, John Schmidt, Marie Casilio, Patti Wittenbrock, John Kuchler, William Carhart, Rachel Scott, Barney Deffley, Jennifer White, Nanette Hall, Brian Chachere, Margaret Mucha, Shizuka McCue, Rita Morrell, Marge Kearney, Dick & Beverly Handley.

Please pray for the deceased of our parish, and for their families, especially:

+Peg Schlothen, +Augie Schettino, +Joylene Long, +Melvin Rhoades, and +Mike Stepovich.

LITURGY CORNER

With our celebration of Ash Wednesday this week, we begin Lent, a penitential season of preparation for Easter. We could think of Lenten penance as a sort of spring plowing: spring plowing cracks, crumbles, and turns over the depths of winter's hard earth in order to prepare it to receive the seed and bring forth new life. This Wednesday, we will enter Lent needing to be plowed, as it were; but if we allow our Lenten penance to plow and transform us, we will arrive at Easter bearing new Life!

"One of the fruits of being a lector for me has been a deepening love for scripture. This has come from spending more time reading and studying it so that my proclamation of the Word would flow from a sense of the time, place, story, and message behind the various readings. I always call upon the Holy Spirit to help me with understanding, delivery, and a quieting of trembling knees. I believe I am a better person because of this ministry. Humility, joy and gratitude are a few of the gifts I have received. A love for the Mass and an appreciation for the freedom and opportunity to attend Mass are other gifts that have been given. Finally I feel more "connected" to our church community. How blessed I have been by being a lector! -- Marilyn Gradwell

Like Marilyn, have you too found that in giving, you receive more than you give? Please give of your time and talents to become a lector or Eucharistic minister at our parish! To schedule training, please call or e-mail abrophy@shcs.org. Thank you! Ann Brophy, Pastoral Associate



ST. PATRICK'S DINNER, SATURDAY, MARCH 15

Basket raffle tickets are on sale after all Masses
this weekend to benefit Magdalene Home and St. Vincent de Paul.

Dinner tickets are on sale \$15 each person.

Dinner includes corned beef and cabbage with beer and wine for sale.

This is a fun-filled evening with singing and Irish dancing.

Doors open at 6:30 PM following our Celtic Mass.

For more information call Connie Moyer at: 541-773-8736



ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

ELECTIONS: The Nominating Committee is at work looking for new officers for 2014-2015. If you are called, please take time to consider accepting an office. It is an honor to serve our Lord as we work for the needs of His Altar at Sacred Heart Church.

MOTHER'S DAY: Do remember the plant sale that takes place Sunday, May 4th, (the week before Mother's Day). There is a need for pots and potting soil. If you wish to donate these items, bring them to the next meeting. Call Louise @ 541-776-2441 with questions.

MEETINGS: The Night Timers will meet Thursday, March 5th, at 5:45 p.m., at the home of Salud. The Day Timers meet Monday, March 10, at 11:00 a.m. Rosary prayed after the meeting. Main Entrée: Corned Beef and Cabbage. The meetings are fun and enlightening -- come join the fun.



Yummy Sundae Sunday!!

Join the Fun!

Mardi Gras Theme

Ice Cream, Chocolate Syrup

Whip Cream and more toppings!

Sunday, March 2nd

1:00 to 4:00

in the Parish Hall

Sponsored by Father Ken

and the Hospitality Committee

*Bring your family and
enjoy a pre-Lent treat!*

TELEVISION AT IT'S BEST!

Father Ken had the opportunity to speak with Perry Atkinson on KDOV last week.

The non-scripted segment can be viewed at theDOVE.us Hit "videos" at the top of the page then scroll down and you will see Father Ken's name. Enjoy!

THE JOYS OF SPRING!

Spring is on the way and there are some healthy weeds springing up. The Wednesday weeders will meet at 9:30 a.m. on March 12th. Bring gloves and your own tools. For more please call BJ Buxton @ 541-772-8292.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Tuesday, March 4th meeting, we gather in the church at 8:00 a.m. for the Rosary, the 8:30 a.m. Mass, followed by a light snack in the Hall. Please bring something to share, coffee and tea will be available.

Our **meeting** will start at 9:30 a.m. Father Michael will be our guest to talk about our preparation for Lent.

New officer elections will be coming, please think of how God is calling you to be more involved.

We will be hosting Coffee and Donuts Sunday, March 9th. Volunteers are needed.

The St. Patrick's Dinner will be March 15 and tickets are selling.

Thank you Advertiser of the Week --

FREEDOM MED ALERT

Please thank our Advertisers with your patronage.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Lent begins March 5, Ash Wednesday. On that day, we begin a season of doing special forms of charity and generosity (almsgiving) and of being more conscientious about prayer; and fasting.

During Lent, our relationship with Jesus grows stronger as we prepare to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection of the Lord.

We don't often think about preparing for Lent, though. Yet, preparing for something is one way to ensure that we get the most out of it. Talk with your child about the season of Lent and the things you might do as a family during Lent. We will talk about these things in class as well. Perhaps on Ash Wednesday Eve, you could gather as a family and read the Gospel that will be proclaimed at Mass the next Day: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18. You will hear Jesus teaching about almsgiving, praying, and fasting. Then throughout Lent, share moments of generosity, prayer, and fasting with your child. Together, we can help your child have a meaningful Lent.

Sincerely In Christ, Mary Stallard



Religious Education is for children Preschool through 5th grade every Sunday at Sacred Heart School from 9:50 – 11:15 a.m. Come along and find out “How cool it is to be Catholic”

Thank our Catechists

Please take the time to thank a Catechist...I have been sincerely blessed this year to have an awesome and most dedicated group of Catechists who have freely given of their faith, time and talents. Without these very special people Sacred Heart would not have this most necessary Children's Ministry.

Catechists to thank:

Josh & Tonya Alger; Nacole McGivney; Edna Rodriguez; Ingrid De Carlow; Esmeralda Angulo; Linda Filardi; Shannon Hagler; Ramona Gifford; Annie Sanchez; Renee Rostel; Denette Sellers; Emily Johnson; Becky Kantor; Kimberly Awbrey; Cheryl Robertson; Heather Rocha; and Betty Rochon. Thank you for a job well done!!!



CONFIRMATION

Our next class is Wednesday, May 12, 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

FAMILY FAITH SHARING Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 6:24-34

In this passage from the Gospel of Matthew we find Jesus teaching his disciples. He is telling them (and us!) that we should not worry about our life - what we will eat or drink or wear. God created the world and everything in it - He loves and cares for all of creation., including birds and wild flowers. God takes care of them, and He will certainly provide for us and take care of our needs.

This passage tells us about God's great love for us. How does it make you feel when you think about God's incredible love for you? Can you think of something you might do to thank God for loving you so much? Perhaps is could be something to help God take care of the earth ...

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL

is seeking an enthusiastic and creative long-term substitute teacher for our 3rd grade students. The position will begin approximately April 17th and will last until the end of the school year. Applicants must have a current Oregon teaching license and be a practicing Catholic. Please submit letter of interest, resume and references to principal, Shirley Kennedy, by March 14, 2014. For information, call the school office: 541-772-4105.

SUPPORT SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Fred Meyer now has a Community Rewards Program where Sacred Heart School can earn cash when parishioners shop at Fred Meyer. Please register your Fred Meyer card at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. The school's registration number is: 94645

Please Join the Choir

Do you **Love** to sing??? Join the Sunday 8:30 a.m. Sacred Heart Church Choir!

We are always looking for new member and are in special need of

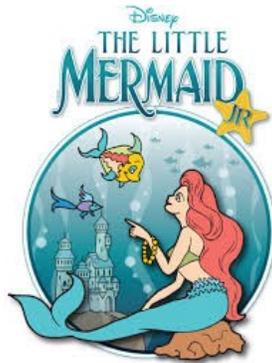
High Sopranos and Basses!

PRAISE OUR LORD THROUGH SONG!

Please Contact Sylvia Pyeatt at the Parish Office or at speyatt@archdpdx.org



**Sacred Heart Catholic Middle School
Presents**



Friday, March 14, 2014 7 PM

Saturday, March 15, 2014 7 PM

Sunday, March 16, 2014 2 PM

Sacred Heart Catholic School Gym

11th St. and Holly St. in Medford

For questions please call the school at 541-772-4105 or email

Chris at csinclair@shcs.org

Donations accepted

**SOUTHERN OREGON
MEN'S ACTS RETREAT**

April 24-27 at St. Rita's Retreat Center, Gold Hill

Adoration – Community – Theology – Service
Contact: Jim Harlan at 541-941-5025 or email
harlanfamily2@juno.com "Let Go – Let God"