

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-7 (38ABC)
SECOND READING: Philippians 2:6-11 GOSPEL: Matthew 26:14-27:66



FATHER KEN'S KORNER

A Few More Thoughts on the Sacrament of Reconciliation

In my column last week I shared a few thoughts about the sacrament of reconciliation. Most important among them were the fact that use of sacrament of reconciliation has been in steady decline since the Vatican II Council and that Pope Francis, by word and example, has said that we should all celebrate it with greater frequency and joy than we currently do. I promised at the end of that column that I would have more thoughts to share on the subject this week. So here we go. Beyond the Pope's strongly held belief that the sacrament of reconciliation can lead us into joy, what else might be said of the sacrament by way of promoting its more frequent use?

1. What's in a name? Let's start there. This sacrament of healing that we focus on this week has also been called the sacrament of confession or the sacrament of penance and many people still refer to it by those names. The current preferred name is reconciliation however and I think the reason is that to be reconciled with God is the ultimate goal of the sacramental experience and the name should reflect that goal/effect. "Confession" puts the emphasis on the naming of personal sins, which is the thing that gives most people anxiety. "Penance" puts the emphasis on the assigned penance at the end of the sacrament. Penance is meant to be a symbolic act of true repentance but unfortunately there are still those who think of penance rather as a sentence or punishment or homework assignment, all of which often come with negative undertones. The truth is that we confess and do penance not for its own sake but so that our relationship with God and others might be repaired/"reconciled". So there is the first reason for participating regularly in the sacrament of reconciliation...because it brings healing and repair to damaged relationships. Our relationship with God has eternal consequences so making sure that that relationship is strong should be our highest priority.
2. Why do we confess to a priest? Many today avoid making use of the sacrament out of embarrassment. They don't want to disclose their most shameful moments to another person and so, whether this is a result of rationalizations or true belief, they claim that they confess directly to God and ask his forgiveness. "If God answers prayers and God forgives then why

do we need to involve another person?", they reason. Well aside from the psychological power that comes through being accountable to another and aside from the spiritual direction that one may also receive that might help a person to grow and avoid that sin in the future, there is another more important reason why another person (and specifically a priest) needs to be involved. Every sin, even the most private ones, negatively impacts both our relationship with God and our relationship with community/the Body of Christ. Whether a sin is large or small, private or public, omission or commission it is always an offense against God. But sin often scandalizes other people. It becomes a stumbling block for them or a discouragement or even, at times, personally wounds them and leads them from the pathway to salvation. At the very least, sin hardens the sinners own heart making them gradually less compassionate toward others, less patient, less loving, etc. Confessing directly to God acknowledges our offense against God but it ignores the community impact. A priest in the sacrament of reconciliation serves as both a stand-in for God and for the community as an ordained minister of the Church and shepherd of God's people. Through him, the sinner is reconciled not only with God but also with the Church.

3. Direct spiritual benefits. Aside from the benefit of a clear conscience and a return of inner peace, the individual who participates in the sacrament of reconciliation also receives "strength for the spiritual battle" (CCC 1496). I liken this strengthening to going to a pharmacy. God giving you specific graces to win victory in your own areas of spiritual weakness is like giving physical symptoms of illness and being given, in return, medicine to deal with your headache or stomach ache, etc. In this case however, the symptoms of illness are spiritual. God, the great physician gives us the medicine of grace custom-fit for our struggles. Only a foolish person would turn that kind of help down.

So don't be shy in coming to the sacrament of reconciliation. Priests also must go to other priests for the same reasons I have listed. Be reconciled to God and His Church. Be strengthened for spiritual warfare. Be consoled with God's peace. And know the joy of truly being forgiven.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULES

Tenebrae: 8:30 a.m. Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday

Holy Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Bilingual
Please bring your Rice Bowls and put them in the baskets provided at the doors of the church

Good Friday: 12:00 noon



Stations of the Cross

English in Church
Followed by Divine Mercy
Novena
Spanish in Hall

3:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

Reading of the Passion
Veneration of the Cross
Communion
Followed by Divine Mercy
Novena

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil: 9:00 p.m.
Bilingual (no Saturday 5:30 p.m. Mass)
Easter Sunday: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., & noon,
with 10:15 a.m. in Jacksonville

No 5:00 p.m. on Easter Sunday

Please park in the county lots (across 10th St.) if possible as we expect services to be crowded. There will be overflow in the Parish Hall for most services.

*The Parish Office will be closed on
Good Friday.*

7:00 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. April 14: +Doris Guth
T. April 15: NO 7AM MASS
W. April 16: +George Young

8:30 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. April 14: NO 8:30 MASS
T. April 15: COMMUNION SERVICE
W. April 16: +Ted Brooker

**See Holy Week schedule (above)
for Service times.**



Could you not keep watch for one hour?

Mk 14: 37 Please consider committing to a weekly hour of Eucharistic Adoration.

In Observation of the Easter Triduum

the tabernacle will be closed in the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel, and there will be no formal Adoration there from Holy Thursday at 6:00 p.m. until Holy Saturday Evening after the Vigil Mass. The normal schedule for Adoration resumes at 11:00 p.m. Holy Saturday.

To sign up for Adoration
please call Dan or Sarah 541-582-3717.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA BEGINS FRIDAY

Why might you want to pray the Divine Mercy Novena? In St. Faustina's writings, we hear Jesus promise, "By this Novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls."

The Divine Mercy Novena **starts on Good Friday, April 18**, after the Noon Stations of the Cross and also after the 3:00 Good Friday Service. On Holy Saturday, 4/19, the chaplet will be said in the church after 8:30 Tenebrae and also at 3:00. On Easter Sunday, the chaplet will be said at 3:00 in the church. The following week through Saturday, April 26, the chaplet will be prayed after 8:30 daily Mass and also at 3:00 in the church. Then on Sunday, April 27, we will celebrate the beautiful Divine Mercy Service at 3:00 in the church!

To assist you in praying the Novena, the novena chaplet and instructions are at the doors of the church and in the Adoration Chapel. Also, in order to gain all the graces from the Divine Mercy Novena, one must celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation 20 days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday.

Come, join us in praying the Divine Mercy Novena and grow in grace!

"Tell souls not to place within their own hearts obstacles to My mercy, which so greatly wants to act within them. My mercy works in all those hearts which open their doors to it. Both the sinner and the righteous person have need of My mercy. Conversion, as well as perseverance, is a grace of My mercy." (1577)

There are no confessions on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday.

LIVING THE EUCHARIST!

The third and final cycle of the Lenten program *Living the Eucharist* has come to an end, but for those who participated, the commission to go forth and "live the Eucharist!" rings with a new urgency and meaning! Many thanks go to our *Living the Eucharist* coordinators, Sylvia Stephenson and BJ Buxton, who stepped forward two years ago and with a lovely spirit of creativity, organization, and love for the Lord, took on the coordination of this big, multi-year, Lenten program and opened its gifts for our parish. We are blessed by your work on our behalf. Thank you, and thank you to all who participated!

PLEASE PRAY for the sick of our parish especially: Dolores Harmon, Dawn De Vries, Donna Becker, Larry Beskow, Lisa Young, Annelies Boivin, John Zeleznik, Eileen Van Dyck, Pamela Demian, Patti Otto, William Cummings, Marie Casilio, Patti Wittenbrock, John Kuchler, Rachel Scott, Jennifer White, Nanette Hall, Shizuka McCue, Rita Morrell, Marge Kearney, Dick & Beverly Handley.

Please pray for the deceased of our parish, and for their families, especially: +Edith Beatrice Mossman.

ARCHBISHOP'S CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

The theme of this year's Appeal is "Teach, Bless, Serve". The Appeal provides a unique opportunity to teach our faith to others and express our gratitude for the Lord's blessings we have received. The Appeal also allows us to share those blessings with others – with Catholic ministry, education and services that help parishes throughout our Archdiocese. The very act of giving is a blessing we bestow on others. And when we bless others, God in turn blesses us for our service.

To date, 339 (20%) of our parish households have taken the opportunity to participate in the Annual Appeal and have contributed \$55,839 toward our parish goal of \$76,356 (73%).

Please prayerfully reflect upon the many blessings you have received and consider how much you will return to further His work in our Archdiocese. Your commitment is needed and will be of great help to those who have and will benefit from the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal funding.

If you would like to pledge to the Appeal, the parish office has the envelopes needed. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish and Archdiocese.

Financial Report

	3/30/2014	3/31/2013 Easter
Total Offertory received- this week	\$13,652.44	\$29,028.62
Offertory Received -Year to Date	\$709,668.55	\$739,847.11
Needed for Budget	\$704,156.30	\$698,113.20
Over (under) Budget	\$5,512.25	\$41,733.91

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

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"

LITURGY CORNER

Today is Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, the beginning of Holy Week. Beginning with today's Gospel proclamation of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem until the incredulous announcement that the tomb is empty, the Church is engaged in celebrating the very foundational events of its faith, the Pascal Mystery. The passion narrative today is not a drama that the assembly passively observes. Rather, the proclamation of the passion invites the assembly into the Paschal Mystery, celebrated here and now. In other words, we are not reenacting events of long ago; we are now living Jesus' dying and rising mystery as our own mystery and way of life, here and now!

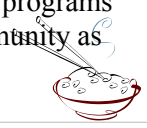
"I enjoy being a lector because it gives me the opportunity to proclaim God's Word. It motivates me to meditate on the Scripture throughout the week in preparation for proclaiming God's Word. (Being a lector) makes a huge positive difference in my family and life." – Esmeralda Angulo

For information about becoming a lector or Eucharistic Minister, or to sign up for training, please call or e-mail abrophy@shcs.org. Thank you! Ann Brophy, Pastoral Associate

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

RICE BOWL - Assisting our Neighbors

25 % of contributions made to CRS Rice Bowl remain in our diocese, helping to support local poverty and hunger alleviation programs. This week we pray for people in our own community who struggle with poverty and hunger. Give to your Rice Bowl to support programs that help the poor in our own community as well as around the world.



SECULAR FRANCISCAN MEETING

The Secular Franciscans wish everyone a Blessed Easter. This month only we will meet on the 4th Sunday of the month starting at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will be abbreviated so that all may attend the Divine Mercy Sunday service at 3:00 p.m. God bless you! Please visit us at our website: www.stfrancis-roguevalley-ofs.com.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Every year, each parish in the United States takes up a collection on Good Friday, as designated by the Holy Father. This collection helps support the work of the Franciscans in the Holy Land. The money is used to care for the people and places of the Holy Land. This collection keeps Christianity alive in this area made holy by the life, suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May God bless you for your generosity.

HOLD THE DATE!
Parish Picnic -- Saturday, July 12
Information to follow!

Thank you Advertiser of the Week --
Southern Oregon Printing
Please thank our Advertisers with your patronage.

ST. ANNE'S ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

Meeting: Monday, April 14, 11:00 a.m., in the Parish Hall. There will be the election of new officers for 2014-2015. Do come and support your favorite candidates for this important election. The main entrée for lunch will be baked ham. Please bring a side dish to share and your own place setting.

Easter Monday Luncheon: April 21, at Twin Creeks -- a few tickets are still available. There will be a "Men's Table", so ladies do invite your husbands. Thank you to those who donated items for the Raffle Baskets and those who came on Saturday to help assemble them. Tickets for the Luncheon and the Basket Raffle, can be purchased from Louise, by calling: 541-776-2441, or Jane by calling: 541-772-4180.

Mother's Day Plant Sale: A Fund Raiser with monies earned purchasing Hosts, Wine and Candles used on the Altar, Sunday, May 4, to be held in the Church Court Yard, weather permitting. This is looking to be a great event with a wide variety of plants and herbs, including a few trees ready to be put into your yard.



Sacred Heart Catholic School is seeking an experienced, Catholic leader to continue and advance a rich heritage of Catholic Education.

With an enrollment of 260 students, Sacred Heart offers a strong faith-formative community and outstanding academic programs from pre-kindergarten through the 8th grade.

- Minimum Requirements:**
- Practicing Roman Catholic
 - 5 plus years of teaching experience
 - Current (or in process) administrative license
 - Master's degree in education
 - Three to five years of administrative service

For complete job listing : <http://www.archdpdx.org/schools/Openings/index.html>

Position starts July 1, 2014.

SACRED HEART YOUTH MINISTRY!

Here is a “quick look” at Sacred Heart Youth Ministry

Summer Events, dates and locations:

Project Revamp: in three phases (open to all Sacred Heart youth in middle school or high school)

Phase 1: Sunday, 13 April - Parish Hall 3-5PM , ending with Mass at 5:00PM. Come, help choose colors for the youth room, share ideas and begin to grow in fellowship and community. We will provide pizza and have some games to play. An Emergency Information Form must be filled out and turned in to Whitney Compton in the Parish Office - one form per youth, not per household. If your son or daughter would like to bring a friend, their parent or legal guardian must complete an Emergency Form.

Phase 2: Sunday, 4 May -Youth Room, 12-5PM

Phase 3: Sunday, 25 May -Youth Room 12-5PM
Information to follow on these phases.

Joe’s Camp (open to all middle school and high school youth) at St. Anne’s, Grants Pass: 22 June -- 27 June 2014

Steubenville Northwest (open to only high school youth) Spokane, Washington: 23 July through 28 July 2014 -- (almost full).

Joe’s Camp! the most intense, amazing, Catholic, teen camp in Southwest Oregon. Teens from all over Southern Oregon will come to put their faith into action, working hard with new, incredible friends and the people of Serve GP to change the WORLD! But it’s not all work! We will have live music by Rita West, amazing talks, small groups, delicious food, free time, and even Jet Boat rides to celebrate this amazing week! This year, we are ‘The Chain Gang’ and it’s all about the rosary! Forms are available in the front office; please call Whitney at 1-541-779-4661 or wcompton@archdpdx.com with any questions! Dates: June 22-27th. \$85 for early registration by May 31st! \$110 for late registration until June 22nd

Note: As of summer 2014, 5th graders entering 6th grade are age appropriate to join Sacred Heart middle



CONFIRMATION

Our next class is Wednesday,
April 23, 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

SAFETY REMINDER FOR CHILDREN

When children leave Mass, or coffee and donuts to go to the Hall bathrooms **an adult should accompany them**. Our buildings are open to all people and we cannot control who may be around when children are. **Keep them safe by watching out for them**. Please go to the Hall with them even if they seem old enough to be off alone. Thank you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES
on Easter Sunday April 20th, 2014



WAVE THOSE PALMS

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week with a remembrance of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The Gospels tell us that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds greeted him with waving palm branches, and by covering his path with palm branches. Immediately following this great time of celebration in the ministry of Jesus, He begins His journey to the cross.

Palms can be dried and displayed throughout your home all yearlong – standing tall in a vase, tucked behind a crucifix or even pressed in your family’s Bible. Palm branches remind us that

Jesus is our light and salvation—and that is surely something to celebrate!

Palm Sunday is called both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. As we receive palms, we hear the Gospel story of Jesus’ last days, His passion and death, during which He consoles the “good criminal” and forgives those responsible for His death.

As we celebrate this last week of lent, what can you do to keep your Lenten promises, to be a follower of Jesus, to celebrate the events of Holy Week?

Religious Education Classes are open to any child from Preschool -- 5th grade every Sunday at 9:50 - 11:15 a.m. at Sacred Heart School. Enrollment remains open throughout the school year. So come and join the fun!!

Contact Mary Stallard 541- 779-4661 ext: 107

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 on Facebook at the Jackson County Right to Life page... Contact Sanda Collegio at 541-779-8587 and lasanda4life@gmail.com to volunteer.

Due to increased foot traffic in our parking lot please be sure to stow your valuables and lock your vehicle while you are at Mass or at Chapel.

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

The Legion of Mary brings Communion to those who cannot come to Mass. People in hospitals, nursing homes, foster care homes, retirement centers, and private homes. It is a spiritually satisfying task, but a formidable one in a city of this size with an aging population. We need more helpers (it is not necessary that they be members of the Legion of Mary). Training is provided. If you can spare an hour or two a week to help with this vital spiritual work of mercy, please leave your name at the office.

**CATHOLIC SENTINEL
LOOK FOR IT!**

The Catholic Sentinel newspaper is available at the doors of the church every other week. The newspaper's website, CatholicSentinel.org, offers daily Vatican, world and national news and photographs from the Catholic News Service, as well as news, information, and photos about Oregon's Catholic community generated by the staff. Read and stay informed!



COFFEE AND DONUTS

Come and enjoy hot coffee and donuts with fellow parishioners Sunday, May 4th after the 7 and 8:30 a.m. Masses.