



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

FIRST READING: Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52 (51C)

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9, 14b-17 GOSPEL: John 10:27-30

FATHER KEN'S KORNER

Saying Farewell the Catholic Way: The Funeral Liturgy

One of the most beautiful liturgies provided by the Church, in my opinion, is the funeral liturgy either in the form of a Funeral Mass or in the form of a Liturgy of the Word service. The prayers and rites of this liturgy are specifically designed not only to fittingly honor the dead but to guide the living through the mourning process. Sadly, though, in recent decades I have seen a steady breakdown in the proper use of the funeral liturgy with families opting to skip parts of the rite or the liturgy in its entirety seemingly because of their inability to deal with the concept of death in a healthy way. This is especially ironic given the fact that Pope John Paul II and later popes have labeled us the Culture of Death with our embracing of euthanasia, abortion, capital punishment and other harmful practices. America, perhaps more than any other culture on earth that I have experienced seems to purposefully avoid dealing with death (and aging for that matter) to its own detriment. This reality brings with it two very noticeable results. The first involves individuals who lose the ability to emotionally move forward in their lives after the loss of a loved one because they refuse to mourn, preferring to cling to the sense of pain and loss or to suppress their pain. Secondly, because we need ritual as humans, when people choose to discard the beautiful ritual of our Catholic faith they often can be found inventing their own rituals around death to replace it. These are often less dignified, less beautiful, and less helpful to the family's recovery.

The Order of Christian Funerals envisions a full funeral liturgy as coming in three phases. These phases are 1) the Vigil, 2) the Funeral and 3) the Committal. Taken as a whole, these three phases lead survivors toward a healthy journey of farewell which is recognized, even specifically within the rites themselves, as a temporary goodbye until we are reunited with them in Heaven. Let us take a closer look at each.

The Vigil – This first phase of the funeral rite can be as brief as the recitation of the Rosary or other suitable prayer for the dead and for those who mourn their loss but it is most fully realized in the form of a wake either in the funeral home or, in some instances, in the church itself. The vigil usually allows for a substantial period of time for family and friends to be with the body of the deceased and to share stories, offer prayers and remember the legacy of the individual's life. Generally the casket is open for this period of time for a very important reason. It allows time for the survivors to process this new reality that the individual is dead and to see the body of their loved one a final time. We are forced to come to grips with the reality of death as we view the corpse. This may seem gruesome to some but it is important. Many times I have heard from individuals wanting to avoid this phase of the ritual because "they want to remember the deceased person joyfully alive" or because they want to spare the children or grandchildren seeing something they fear might be psychologically scarring. In my estimation,

this avoidance does harm to everyone involved. Will there be tears? Yes, but these tears are healthy and exposure to death often dispels much of the fear associated with our own future deaths. In particular, denying youth this opportunity is ultimately harmful in my opinion as it just continues to contribute toward the problem our society has in dealing with death.

The Funeral – The great tragedy I am witnessing too often now in Oregon as a pastor is when the last Catholic in the family is in the casket and when many of those who survive them have lost their faith entirely and so have chosen to skip the funeral and proceed directly to the burial. As Catholics we have always understood the importance of praying for the dead. Because we believe in Purgatory as a merciful cleansing from sin after death (and YES we still believe in it!) the funeral plays an important role in spiritually aiding the dead on their final journey toward Heaven. This practice of praying for the dead predates Christianity as the Jews prayed for their dead. However, it became more liturgically pronounced even from the first decades of the Church's existence as members of the faithful celebrated Mass within the catacombs and even on the tombs of the martyrs. For this reason, the preferred option for a Catholic will always be the Funeral Mass where the Eucharistic sacrifice (the most powerful prayer of the Church), takes place on behalf of the dead. St. Monica once told her son St. Augustine at her passing that she did not care where she was buried. She only asked that he would remember her at the altar each time he celebrated the Mass. Please note that, at the Mass, the casket is closed, which is already representing the next phase of farewell after the vigil.

The Committal – Finally, it is important for the family and friends of the deceased to witness the burial. Once again, as a pastor, I repeatedly hear people tell me this is not what they want their last memories to be of their loved one and again, this is to their detriment. Sadly, many funeral homes contribute to this problem (or perhaps they are just responding to this problem in an economic way), by ending the committal service with the casket or urn presented above ground. The committal envisions that family and friends would participate by helping to bury the body...literally by taking up a shovel and throwing dirt on the remains after they are lowered into the ground. Burying the dead is one of the corporal works of mercy and there is a finality to this act which is helpful to the living. I urge you not to skip it.

There you have it, my fellow parishioners. As I mentioned last week, one of the most loving things we can do for our families in our later years is to make our own funeral arrangements. If you can understand the importance of these three phases of the funeral liturgy in keeping with our sacred tradition and for your loved ones, make sure to let them know what you want done at your own funeral now "in the living years".

Father Ken's column is a rerun from 2014 that will ever be timely.

NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

We need **you!** Every Sunday Mass is in need, especially the Noon and 5PM. Training for new Eucharistic Ministers will take place **Thursday, 4/21 at 4:00** in the church. If another time would work better for you, we can do that too. To sign up, please contact Ann Brophy at the parish office or abrophy@shcs.org. Thank you!

LECTORS NEEDED

More lectors are urgently needed at all the Masses, but especially the Noon and 5:30 Vigil. You will receive training, a Lector Workbook, and ongoing support. Please call Ann Brophy at the parish office or abrophy@shcs.org to schedule training. Lector Trainer Maureen Swift will get back in touch with you. Thank you!

PATRICIANS A CATHOLIC DISCUSSION

Please join us April 25th - 4th Monday at 9:15 in the Parish Hall. Our topic is: Holy Days of Obligation - where did they come from? Our Spiritual Director is Father Justus Alaeto. You are welcome to sit in, ask questions and share your opinions!

PRACTICAL WAYS TO REACH YOUTH

We live in a culture of distractions. Electronic media ensures that we are never far from a status update, a greeting from a friend, or a sales ad. Today's kids have grown up in this media-saturated environment, and it is affecting the brain. Come learn practical ways to reach today's young people and help them make connections to faith. This workshop is free, but you must RSVP online at <http://www.pdxfamilife.org/attention-please/> or call Evelyn Tucker @ 541.601.4959. Meeting is from 9am until Noon, Saturday, April 23 – at Our Lady of the Mountain parish hall.

MEDIA KIOSK FEATURE OF THE WEEK



Walk the Walk: Following Christ as His Disciples

Being a disciple of Jesus has always been synonymous with being a Christian. From the Scriptures and from his own experience, biblical scholar Dr. Timothy Gray explains how Christian discipleship calls us to follow in the footsteps of Christ as engaged participants in God's plan, ordering our lives to bear witness to the Lord in our families, workplaces, communities, and to the world.

Cost: Books \$4 CDs \$3 Booklets \$2 Pamphlets 50c
Place payment in slot on lower right side of the kiosk



LEGION OF MARY

Do you often feel an urging inside you to do something more for God than simply attending Sunday Mass? The Legion members bring the presence of Jesus and share the Gospel message to the homebound. In February the Legion members visited 517 people and 695 people in March. JoAnn Roberts made a promise to the Legion of Mary this month. Father Justus welcomed and blessed her. Being involved with the church ministry is very rewarding and if you are interested please call the office.

7:00 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. Apr. 18: +Francis Whittington
T. Apr. 19: +Frank Dever
W. Apr. 20: +Sofia Parker Griffin
Th. Apr. 21: +Margaret Steinkamp
Fri. Apr. 22: Christopher & Kelly Smith

8:30 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. Apr. 18: +Mike Murphy
T. Apr. 19: +Robert Hadley
W. Apr. 20: +Paul Dellapenta
Th. Apr. 21: +Rosalie Velho
Fri. Apr. 22: +Rosalie Velho
Sat. Apr. 23: +Charles Tapia

Thank you: To all involved in planning the funeral and reception for Paul Zeleznik. For the beautiful sympathy cards, prayers, Masses, & to the Legion of Mary for their weekly visits With a grateful hearts, Loretta Thrun, John Zeleznik, & Don Zeleznik

PLEASE PRAY for the sick of our parish especially:

Vicky Nuss, Lenore Manigbas, Joey Rossnecht, Gladys Schibusch, Sharon Sakraida, George Halvorsen, Jan Kantor, Marjorie Nave, Virgil Syverson, Marge Kearney, Caroline Kopico, Kathleen Motter, Mary Gulrich, Ronna Hetzel Baltz, Ginny Spechtenhauser, Kathy Kim, Ruth Frisbee, Teri Gieg, Reese Baker, Diane Williams, Frances Maltoni, Randy Gale, Peg Morgan, Joyce Farrell, Joanne Hafner, Evelyn Bocast, Patty Wittenbock, Bill & Rosemary Schueller, Cynthia Sugiura, Ramona Rosales, Trudy Omann, Kathy Steiner, John Kuchler, Marie Casilio, Shizuka McCue, Eileen Van Dyck, Beverly & Dick Handley, John Zeleznik, and Don & Jean Palese.

Please pray for the deceased of our parish especially: +Pearl Smith, +Benjamin Gomez Cortes, and +John Aitken.

MEETING GOD WHERE WE ARE

From the Spirituality Committee

This month, we are pleased to have reflections on two of our Church organizations that exemplify living the Works of Mercy, the Catholic Daughters and the Knights of Columbus. As you read these reflections, consider if you, too, are called to join in their work.

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Catholic Daughters

My Journey with Catholic Daughters began when I married my husband, Greg. His Grandparents were very involved in church. They were strong, faithful and family centered. When Grandma passed away I learned how involved she was in her faith community. She did everything in her small parish. The most prominent one was Catholic Daughters. I decided that to honor her I wanted to be a Catholic Daughter. I thought it would be a way to contribute but also hand a part of Grandma on to my daughters. Connie Moyer asked me one day if I would like to join and I accepted the offer to become a member. I was excited to be able to pass Grandma on to my girls and contribute my time.

What I found in Catholic Daughters is much more than I ever thought it could be. From the moment I walked into my first meeting I felt loved by all the ladies. I have met other strong and faith filled women that I wouldn't have had the chance to meet, because we pass each other coming and going from Mass. Each lady challenges me daily to become a better person. I get to learn more about my Catholic faith from the guest speakers and my sisters. There is some work involved but my sisters make the work fun. We get to laugh and joke and then the job is done. It doesn't feel like I did anything because I am having so much fun. I know my work benefits others and I know that I am part of something larger than myself. Grandma Westhoff gave me one of the greatest gifts of my life becoming a Catholic Daughter.

I want to encourage each woman of our parish to consider becoming a Catholic Daughter. You will be blessed just as I have been by all of the different facets of Catholic Daughters. God Bless You All.

Jaimie Bryan

Knights of Columbus

Medford Council 1594 was the first in our area of Southern Oregon and so earned the named Rogue River Council. Over the years the Knights have expanded to Grants Pass, Central Point and Ashland. Most folks know us as the guys who cook breakfast or dinners to support the many charities within the Sacred Heart community.

The first principal of the Knights of Columbus is Charity followed by Unity and Fraternity. Charity is identified not only monetarily but includes all the Corporal Works of Mercy. Unity includes the Spiritual Works of Mercy as we care for each other and those of our community.

Each meeting we pray for our brothers that are sick or in distress. Both the 5th Sunday Rosary and the recent Living Rosary bring the parish community together in prayer. Along with the many Knights that support the perpetual Adoration Chapel, we bring the Spiritual Works of Mercy alive each day.

To convert people to thinking differently the Knights are raising funds for a new Portable Ultrasound machine for The Pregnancy Center in Medford. The Knights also paid for the current unit being used in their facility.

To build and live the domestic Church as called for by Pope Francis, the Knights have a program that reminds all families our home is where we should focus our prayer, to bring Jesus alive in all we say and do with our children and each other.

Living the Corporal Works of Mercy has an Army of Knights working at St Vincent DePaul Society, in the store and serving food each day to bring something more to those less fortunate.

The Knights youth organization, the Columbian Squires program, strives to provide "the spiritual, cultural, civic, social and physical improvement of our male youth, and the development of their leadership qualities."

Since 1882, the Knights have been helping lives to grow and be closer to Jesus. Come join us!

Joe Schaecher

April 2016

PARISH DIRECTORY

The Directory Committee members are working diligently on the Parish Directory. It is very beautiful and we know you will be pleased with the results. Unfortunately, due to numerous corrections needed to adjust names and addresses and a major computer glitch caused by the Lifetouch Company, there has been a delay in completing the Directory. We are hoping to have it available early to mid-May. Thank you for your patience and understanding. We will keep you posted on when to expect your copy.



ST. VINCENT D PAUL NEWS 2424 N. Pacific Hwy., Medford

St Vincent de Paul's Urban Rest Stop is being expanded this spring. The demand for its showers and laundry facilities, for homeless men and women, has increased many times since it opened in 2009. These vital services, that we take for granted, are provided Monday through Friday mornings, with different volunteers each day. Volunteer staffing includes a male and female from a local parish plus 1 – 2 homeless volunteers. The expansion will require 1 additional volunteer each day. The day of the week is negotiable. Contact TC (541) 301-0025 or Lee (541) 601-5273 to discuss these positions or to visit our facility to see if this fits your time and talents. We also have many other areas where we need volunteers such as our kitchen, store, office, pantry as well as social services and home visitations. Please call our volunteer coordinator [541-772-3828 Ext 7](tel:541-772-3828) for other volunteer opportunities

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS



Please join us for breakfast on Sunday, April 17. Pancakes and all the fixings will be served up. Proceeds benefit Magdalene Home. Please come over and join us for good food, coffee and camaraderie.

ATTENTION: SINGLES

Our last gathering at 4 Daughters was enjoyable, and we welcomed a few more people into the group. Our next adventure will be at the Kaleidoscope Pizzeria on Crater Lake Hwy, Sunday April 17th @ 6:00pm. Come join us for fun, good food, great conversation and laughter...

WORKSHOP: CARING HANDS CAREGIVER TRAINING AND SUPPORT!

On **Saturday, April 23** from **10-Noon** in our **parish hall**, a special, free workshop is being offered to the Medford community by *Visiting Angels Living Assistance Services* for all caregivers (and those who may become future caregivers)! As a way to give back, *Visiting Angels* has designed a course to help support family and friends who provide care for their loved ones. In this training, Cascade Health Solutions will provide equipment training, done by professionals, insights into Hospice by Providence Hospice, and safety tips from a physical therapist. *Visiting Angels* will also have professional caregivers who will lend practical ideas for creating a joyful, active environment, as well as practices for keeping the caregivers healthy physically, emotionally, and spiritually. A free online Family Learning Center Resource will be provided upon completion of the class. Free in-home care will be provided during the course.

Registration is required. To register for this event, please call Visiting Angels at 541 773-5002 or sign up at www.visitingangelsmedford.eventbrite.com.

COFFEE & DONUTS SCHEDULE

April 17: Knights of Columbus Breakfast

April 24: 7:00 - Debbie Peerenboom

8:30 - Emilda Vincent & Chato Snow



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“To understand, forgive, accompany and integrate.
That is the mindset which should prevail in the Church.” ~~ Pope Francis



SACRED HEART YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact Whitney Godfrey, Youth Minister:

wgodfrey@archdpdx.org Please e-mail Whitney for her **PHONE NUMBER**

YOUNG ADULTS AGE 18-35: To receive our e-mail please contact Whitney at wgodfrey@archdpdx.org

CONFIRMATION CLASS! This Wednesday, April 20th, bring your books and arrive between 5:45 and 5:55 (doors close). Class starts promptly at 6:00pm! We will have youth Mass and youth group this weekend!!!

YOUTH GROUP: In Youth Room

EDGE: 9:45a-11:00a – April 17: Anointing of the Sick!

Next week: April 24 - EDGE CANCELED due to Middle School Retreat on April 22-23.

LIFE NIGHT: April 17 Night 4 of 4: Trusting in God’s Mercy

YOUTH GROUP DONATIONS: Thank you to all who brought food for our teens! We are still in need of bottled water/ juice boxes and a few other snacks to get us through the rest of the youth ministry year. Please contact Whitney Godfrey!

STEUBENVILLE San Diego 2016:

Our next meeting is April 19 -from 5:30-6:30pm for TEENS ::: PARENTS WELCOME

EDGE RETREAT PACKING LIST:

Parents of middle school youth! Here is the packing list. Snack to share (chips, veggies, juice boxes, fruit snacks, etc). Sleeping Bag, Pillow, Hygiene Kit (Toothpaste, toothbrush, hairbrush, deodorant, shampoo, etc.) Towel, Shower Shoes, Modest Warm Sleepwear, Slippers or Warm Socks, 2 changes of camp type-clothes, Necessary Medications (to be turned into an adult in a zip lock bag with med form), sunscreen, Hats, Sunglasses, bug spray, Bible and Journal, Cell Phones are ok – there will be time to call home before bed, Water Bottle, **GOOD TENNIS SHOES**. Do NOT bring Laptops, Tablets, energy drinks, inappropriate materials, and a poor attitude.

NET RETREAT: The National Evangelization Team also known as NET will be at Saint Mary’s High School on April 21 from 4-9pm. This retreat is FREE and open to all Sacred Heart Youth from 7 -- 12th grade. Please contact me for a simple registration form. Fill out the registration form and bring it to me when you arrive at St. Mary’s for the retreat! Contact Whitney Godfrey for the Registration Form.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL Celebrating 150 years of excellence... with heart

SACRAMENTS

Congratulations to our Sacred Heart families who became full members of the Church this Easter! May you continue to grow and thrive in our rich faith.

TEACHER TRAVEL

We are fortunate to have been able to access Title funds that helped facilitate four of our teachers’ participation in the National Catholic Education Association’s Convention and Expo in San Diego in March, this year.

SPORTS

Track practice is underway with promise of a strong season. We have a great team with lots of enthusiasm and experience!

ROBOTICS TEAMS

Both St. Mary’s TNT and C4 (2015 SHCS Graduate, Heikki Ashby’s team) advanced through league championship, super qualifiers, state, and the 13 state West Regional to make it to the World Championship, being held in St. Louis at the end of April. Only 128 of 4,629 teams advance. These teams are the first to advance to the World Championship from Southern Oregon. Congrats to all and good luck in St. Louis!

ENROLLMENT

Open enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year is happening NOW! If you are considering a Catholic education for your kids, please call the school and arrange a tour. [541-772-4105](tel:541-772-4105). Come see what's special about Sacred Heart!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Saint Augustine said, “A Christian should be an alleluia from head to foot... We are Easter people and our Alleluia is our song.”

Many times we fail to realize that our actions speak louder than our words. The more we listen to, understand, and love each other, the more we show, indeed that “Alleluia is our song.” A great kid’s activity could be to make celebratory Easter Alleluia’s that they can hang in the home or their rooms. Draw large individual letters for Alleluia. Cut them out and then stick each letter down heavy strip of yarn, string or ribbon to make a huge ALLELUIA!! They could also make an acrostic poem using the Alleluia letters by writing a phrase for each corresponding letter... A – Amazed at ... for example -Creation; L – Loving... (Jesus); L- Listening to...; E- Enjoying...; L- living for....; U- understanding...; I – Interested in; A – Accepting of

Try designing your own Alleluia display. Have fun making us an alleluia from head to toe!!

Registration for Sacrament Preparation Classes for 2016-2017 – open NOW

Is your child entering the 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th grade next year? Are they in their 2nd consecutive year of Religious Education or attending Sacred Heart School? You may be able to register your child now!! If you would like your child to receive their First Reconciliation and First Communion next year please call Mary Stallard at the Parish Office so I can help you and your child with this important journey of faith.

For further questions or details about Religious education or Sacrament Preparation contact Mary Stallard at the Parish Office. Ph# 541-779-4661 Ext: 107

SACRED HEART SCHOOL MAYOR'S CUP

Congratulations to Sacred Heart School for coming in second in the Mayor's Cup School competition. We had 105 entrants this year! Also congratulations to seventh grader Emma Schmerbach who came in FIRST in the one mile Mayor's Cup run. Quite a feat considering how many runners there were.

SACRED HEART GARAGE SALE

Come check out the Sacred Heart School Garage Sale!

Date: Saturday, April 23
 Time: 9 AM-4 PM
 Where: School Playground which is located at the corner of 12th and Holly St. in Medford.



A Charismatic Women's Retreat

**The Flame of God's Love, The Holy Spirit
 Friday, April 29 through Sunday, May 1**

Women of all ages, teens also, are invited to come and receive or enkindle the fire of the Holy Spirit. Learn about the baptism of the Spirit and experience a life changing retreat at St. Rita's Retreat Center, Gold Hill. \$115 for 2 nights lodging and meals. Financial aid available. Registration forms available in church office or call us for information/registration, Sandy at 541-944-4659 or The Dove 541-582-2968

IN THE NEW CATHOLIC SENTINEL:

Increase your understanding of Pope Francis's new teaching on the family, and see how Archbishop Alexander Sample has welcomed it. Read about what parishes and other Catholic organizations can do about the pending earthquake. See how one concentration camp survivor came to the decision to forgive her tormentors. Meet Mount Angel Abbey's new abbot in depth. Available at the doors of the Church.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Be part of passing Oregon's first pro-life law. Volunteers needed for signature gathering. Contact Sanda at lasandal@yahoo.com or 541-779-8587



SECULAR FRANCISCAN MEET

The local Secular Franciscan Fraternity will be meeting every third Sunday, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the Parish Office Conference Room. If you are feeling the tug to enrich your faith journey to Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi, you are welcome to come and see.

Financial Report

	4/3/2016	4/5/2015 Easter
Weekly Budgeted Amount	\$17,884.62	\$18,144.23
Offertory received current week	\$21,538.62	\$35,687.44
Offertory Received -Year to Date	\$732,744.48	\$721,050.04
Needed for Budget	\$715,384.78	\$725,769.21
Over (under) Budget	\$17,359.70	(\$4,719.17)
% Over (Under) Budget	2.43%	-0.65%
Thank you for the generous support of the parish.		

ROSARY SALE

Sunday April 17th, 8:00am to 2:00pm. We have lots of rosaries - great gifts for all those receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion. We also have the "Way of the Cross" chaplet. Come see what we have. Can't make the sale? Call Bertha 541-245-6981.

Rosary

MARRIED COUPLES

In today's Gospel Jesus commanded his disciples to love one another as He had loved them. Do we reflect this love in our lives and relationships, especially our marriage relationship? Let God show you how to love your spouse and others as He loves you by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on May 27th - 29th at Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center in Beaverton, Oregon. For more information call 503-853-2758 or apply on-line at www.rediscoverthepark.org. Additional dates and locations are listed on-line.