



Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis this last week provided us with a couple of inspiring actions of his young papacy. First, he issued his first encyclical *The Light of Faith*. This reflection upon the gift of faith is a blessing for us that we can read during this Year of Faith as a way of renewing our relationship with Jesus and as a way of helping us to grow in appreciation of the value of our faith in Our Lord. At http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20130629_enciclica-lumen-fidei_en.html can be found the text of the encyclical. At http://www.catholicworldreport.com/Blog/2398/summary_of_the_encyclical_lumen_fidei.aspx#.UduAKVIo4yU there is a summary and the Vatican News Service provides eight points from the encyclical to ponder at <http://www.news.va/en/news/the-light-of-faith-points-to-ponder>. The second momentous action is that he has announced that he will canonize Popes John Paul II and John XXIII. How wonderful it will be that we will soon be able to call both of these inspiring popes by the title of Saint. Here is a prayer that we can pray through the intercession of Blessed Pope John Paul II:

*O Holy Trinity,
we thank you for having given to the Church
Pope John Paul II,
and for having made him shine with your
fatherly tenderness,
the glory of the Cross of Christ and the
splendor of the Spirit of love*

*He, trusting completely in your infinite
mercy
and in the maternal intercession of Mary,
has shown himself*

*in the likeness of Jesus the Good Shepherd
and has pointed out to us holiness
as the path to reach eternal communion with
You.*

*Grant us, through his intercession,
according to your will, the grace that we
implore,
as we await that he will soon be numbered
among your saints.
Amen.*

And here is a prayer that we can pray to St. Joseph that Blessed Pope John XXIII wrote:

*Saint Joseph, guardian of Jesus and chaste
husband of Mary, you passed your life in
loving fulfillment of duty. You supported the
holy family of Nazareth with the work of
your hands. Kindly protect those who
trustingly come to you. You know their
aspirations, their hardships, their hopes.
They look to you because they know you will
understand and protect them. You too knew
trial, labor, and weariness. But amid the
worries of material life, your soul was full of
deep peace and sang out in true joy through
intimacy with God's Son entrusted to you,
and, with Mary, his tender Mother. Assure
those you protect that they do not labor
alone. Teach them to find Jesus near them
and to watch over him faithfully as you have
done. Amen.*

I encourage us to pray these prayers for our own needs and for the needs of our parish.

Have a blessed and grace-filled week.

God bless, Fr. Gutowski

"Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle." - Unknown

Mass Intentions  *for the Week*

JULY 15 THRU JULY 21

Monday	Priest's Intention
Tuesday	Priest's Intention
Wednesday	Anne Boro
Thursday	Priest's Intention
Friday	Priest's Intention
Saturday	Loretta Patry
Sunday	People of St. Joseph

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Omaha Stormchasers and your Springfield Knight of Columbus, we want to thank all who took part in Catholic Night with the Stormchasers. It was a beautiful night for a baseball game. St Joseph had 62 tickets sold for the game which was a good showing for our church. Once again thanks and we will do it again next season. *Your Springfield Knights of Columbus.*

HOLY FAMILY SHRINE

CONCERT The Holy Family Shrine is honored to have "Men, Women, All in Praise" with Susan Blumel come to the Shrine for a concert on **Sunday July 21st at 7:30pm**. Please join us for an evening of sacred music as the sun sets over the Platte Valley. A small reception will follow the concert. All free will donations go to support the Shrine.

To get to the Shrine take I-80 to exit 432 (Gretna exit), go South 1 mile to Pflug Road, turn right on Pflug Road and go West 1 mile.

For questions call **402-332-4565**.

THE AQUINAS FORUM

Make plans to attend The Aquinas Forum, a Catholic lecture series for inquiring minds on Tues., July 30, 7 p.m., at Gloria Deo®, 13065 W. Center Rd., in Omaha. Sue Buesing, executive director of New Apologetics, will deliver this month's talk, entitled, "Atheists: In What Sense Are They Right?" New Apologetics is the nation's fastest growing Catholic apologetics organization -- since its Facebook debut just over a year ago, nearly 60,000 people have followed the organization. New Apologetics fosters dialogue with atheists and agnostics in a respectful but reasoned and rational way. The Aquinas Forum at Gloria Deo is free and open to the public, with a free will offering.

LIVE YOUR MARRIAGE SACRAMENT

Want to learn the secret to living your marriage sacrament freely, totally, faithfully and fruitfully? Come learn Natural Family Planning; it's highly effective and can do wonders for your relationship. To learn more visit www.live-the-love.org or call **402-571-4111**. A series of classes taught by The Couple to Couple League is starting in Omaha on Saturday, July 27 at 7 p.m. To register, visit www.ccli.org

**TOTUS TUUS POT LUCK**

There will be a potluck on July 24 from 5:30 - 7:30 to meet the Totus Tuus instructors and allow them to meet the parish. Pulled pork and drinks will be provided. Please sign-up in the Narthex to let us know you want to join us and what dish you are bringing.

Good News Reflection

July 14, 2013

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deut 30:10-14

Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36-37

or Ps 19:8-11

Col 1:15-20

Luke 10:25-37

The opposite of love is not hate. It's apathy: ignoring a need, not caring, and doing nothing when there is something we can do to relieve suffering. In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus gives us the Parable of the Good Samaritan to explain that if we love God with our whole heart, our whole being, our whole strength, and our whole mind, we naturally care about other people, even those who are strangers, even those whom we're "not supposed to" like, and even when it costs us something personally.

Many of the problems that exist in our world today are allowed to continue because too many of us Christians – we who through Christ have the power to change the world – do not care enough to sacrifice our time and personal agendas to get involved. Much of the suffering that's endured in our families and workplaces and parishes would be stopped or relieved if we loved God enough to care about others enough to risk the cost of intervening.

How much do you love God? The answer lies in how much you're willing to sacrifice for the sake of loving others, which is the definition of love that Jesus taught us with this parable and with his life.

None of us love God perfectly yet. Purgatory will be a time of painfully regretting our lack of love, while eagerly improving our love for others so we can enter into the fullness of God's love in

heaven. Until then, we have daily opportunities, here and now, to purify our lives less painfully. Daily we're given tests to improve how well we love others.

So daily ask the Holy Spirit, your teacher, your empowerer, your source of holiness, to help you become more like Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you love all others as Christ loves them.

By doing this spiritual exercise consistently, you will receive a new joy and an enlivened passion in dealing with others. You will feel greater love for God and you will experience his love for you much more intimately.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Whom do you pass by and ignore when you see suffering? Is there anyone you've recently walked away from because you didn't want to give up something (perhaps your time, pride, prejudice, feeling of inadequacy, resentment or unforgiveness)? Take it to the Sacrament of Confession to receive God's grace and help in loving others more fully.

Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:

Name a "Good Samaritan" you know or have read about. What did this person give up to serve others? How do such people find the ability to love so well? Describe a situation you've witnessed where apathy has contributed to someone's suffering. How could love make a difference?

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