



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 11, 2016

ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH



Picnic

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC – Next Saturday, September 17th on the lawn of the little house next door immediately following the 4pm Mass. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church. If you can help with the event (set-up, manage the food, clean-up) and/or contribute to the feast, please sign up.

RCIA, FIRST COMMUNION AND RECONCILIATION CLASSES: If you or someone you know would like to participate in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) or if you would like to enroll your child in a class for First Communion/First Reconciliation, please sign-up in the back of the church. (The sign-up sheet is on the table with the all those Catholic Updates.) We'd like to organize our classes for this fall as quickly as possible.

DOWN SYNDROME NETWORK OREGON'S 14th ANNUAL BUDDY WALK
Sunday, September 25 at Millennium Park Plaza in Lake Oswego. Founded by Our Lady of the Lake parishioners, Down Syndrome Network Oregon serves families with loved ones with all types of disabilities throughout the metro-Portland area. Funds raised at this family friendly event benefit programs ranging from new parent support, parent social gatherings and trainings, sports and other types of activities for children, to scholarships for summer camps plus the National Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention. Most importantly, the walk helps increase acceptance and friendship for people with disabilities in our area. Register today at www.dsno.org. Lunch provided!

ARCHDIOCESAN CATECHETICAL CONFERENCE: WITNESSING THE FATHER'S MERCY, October 15, 2016 at the University of Portland. Information cards are available in the back of the church. EARLY REGISTRATION is now open until September 30th – the rate is \$50, and includes lunch.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND – SEPTEMBER 18th:

9:00 AM: The Sharons (Hunt & Finley) 11:00 AM: Cathy & Mark Myers
Please come early. If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you!

Collection for Last Sunday: \$5,356.00 Simple Supper \$485.00 Thank You!

“Forgiveness is the greatest and the most incomprehensible miracle of God’s love because God communicates himself in it, and does this to a person who in something which only appears to be a mere banality of everyday life has managed to do the monstrous thing of saying “no” to God.

God’s word of forgiveness is not only the consequence, but is also and ultimately the presupposition of the conversion in which a guilty person turns to God and surrenders himself in faith, trust and contrition, and it can be heard in the depths of conscience. For as the ground on which conversion is based, this word of forgiveness dwells within the trusting and loving return of a person to God, the return in which this person repents and does homage to the merciful love of God. Throughout the length and breadth of the history of the human race this quiet word of forgiveness often has to be enough by itself.”

--Karl Rahner, *Foundations of Christian Faith*, Crossroad, 1978, p. 421.

LITURGICAL READINGS

- Today: *Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.* Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14/ Psalm 51/
1 Timothy 1:12-17/ Luke 15:1-32.
- Monday: *The Most Holy Names of Mary.* 1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33/ Psalm 40/
Luke 7:1-10.
- Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 12, 14, 27-31a/ Psalm 100/ Luke 7:11-17.
- Wednesday: *The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.* Numbers 21:4b-9/ Psalm 78/
Philippians 2:6-11/ John 3:13-17.
- Thursday: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11/ Psalm 118/ Luke 2:33-35.
- Friday: *Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishops, Martyrs.* 1 Corinthians
15:12-20/ Psalm 17/ Luke 8:1-3.
- Saturday: 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49/ Psalm 56/ Luke 8:4-15.
- Next Sunday: *Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.* Amos 8:4-7/ Psalm 113/
1 Timothy 2:1-8/ Luke 16:1-13.



St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

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PARISH STAFF

Rev. James Martin Kolb, C.S.P., Pastor

Elizabeth Duncan, Parish Assistant - 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

The Parable of Ground Zero

"It was an absolutely appalling sight — the colossal, twisted buildings still on fire, piles of rubble covered with a heavy layer of gray ash, and hundreds of uniformed firefighters and police officers seemingly everywhere. . . . I can still remember the terrible acrid smell that pervaded everything. I felt like I was in hell.

In this hell I found grace. Working at the World Trade Center was one of the most profound experiences of the Holy Spirit I've ever had, for there I encountered an overwhelming sense of charity, unity and concord. Every person working at Ground Zero was "other-directed." Every person was selfless, utterly unconcerned for himself or herself. Every person seemed kind, considerate, loving.

All of their work, of course, was deeply informed by the sacrifices that had already been made by the firefighters and rescue workers who gave their lives as they raced into the burning buildings on September 11. For me, it was as if God was offering us a parable. In the Gospels, when people asked what God or the Kingdom of God is like, Jesus offered them a parable, a story drawn from nature or everyday life to help them understand things more deeply. Jesus would say: God is like the father welcoming back his son. Or: God is like a woman sweeping her house.

And here was God offering us a parable today. As I looked around at the rescue workers, I thought, what is God like? God is like the firefighter who rushes into a burning building to save someone. That's how much God loves us. And I saw this love expressed in the great charity of all the rescue workers who gathered at the American Golgotha.

So for me, the experience of September 11, 2001, was not simply one of tragedy but also of resurrection. For me it embodied the Christian mystery of the cross: the place of unimaginable tragedy can also be the place of new life that comes in unexpected ways."

[Excerpt from The Parable of Ground Zero by Father James Martin, SJ, <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/september-11/911-10th-anniversary-martin.cfm>]