



April Fools' Day!

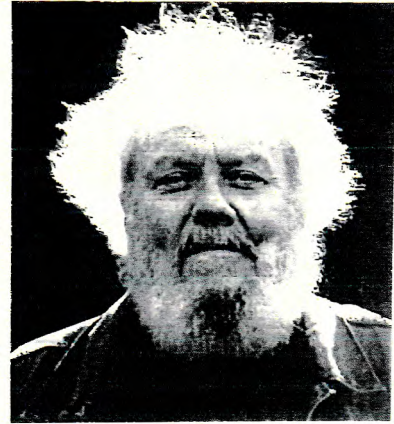
April 1, 2017

The Only Saturday in Foolish Time

(Intended only for folks blessed with a sense of humor.)

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY: Priest Beautification Sunday.

We all know that our Archdiocese likes its priests to look sparkly clean and emanate that heavenly “divine glow.” The bishop’s heard that Fr. Jim is looking a tad scruffy around the edges and authorized a second collection at St. Elizabeth’s next weekend to send Fr. Jim to the Spa for a full body waxing and polishing. He will be manicured and pedicured, exfoliated and coiffed and is guaranteed to return to us “positively glowing.” Please give generously! Any funds remaining after Father’s Spa Day will be used to purchase him frilly vestments for Easter (pink, perhaps?).



CHOIR PRACTICE IS CANCELED FOR THE REMAINDER OF LENT:

Let’s be honest. We’re just wasting these nice folks’ time. Either they can sing or they can’t. Let’s cut them loose so they can enjoy watching Dancing with the Stars.

COLLECTION FOR LAST WEEKEND: \$2.47 (The Parish Council thanks everyone for the workshop (*tee hee*) cruise in the Bahamas. See the lovely post card they sent on the bulletin board in the gathering area.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Coffee & Donuts : Cancelled due to the Parish Council’s unexpected workshop (vacation). (\$2.47 buys a single donut—clearly not enough, and we don’t want to provoke a riot.)

Wine & Cheese Next Weekend: In a show of their supremacy and in the true spirit of one-upmanship, **The Italians** (Gattos, Torchias, Barberis’) will join forces next Saturday after Mass and present a five-course meal with the perfect wine pairing for each course. Black-tie attire, please. RSVP to the church office.

IMMEDIATE JOB OPENING: Office Assistant at St. Elizabeth Church. Due to the firing of Elizabeth Duncan for extreme insubordination (you just can’t make an obedient Catholic out of a born and bred Methodist), the office is hiring a new assistant. Minimal Pay but you get to listen to Fr. Jim’s stories again and again and again and again. . . .

(The church office is aware that no one reads the religious drivel ordinarily appearing on this page, so it will henceforth be devoted to PAID ADVERTISING. Advertisement requests must be submitted to the Church Office by Wednesdays.)

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TO SOUTH PHILADELPHIA

Walk in the footsteps of William Penn

Featuring a relaxing afternoon innertube float down the Delaware River with breathtaking views of the Camden, NJ skyline.

7 fun packed days and nights, October 9 to 16, 2017

Under the Spiritual Direction of Rev. James M. Kolb, CSP

("And I swore I'd never go back to that hell-hole.")

Trip highlights include:

- * Visit Moyamensing Prison, est. 1835
Home to H.H. Holmes, the nation's first convicted serial killer.
- * Enjoy world-famous Philly Cheesesteak at Geno's Steaks and Pat's King of Steaks
At the intersection of 9th & Passyunk Ave.
("It's not Tom's but it'll do.")
- * Experience shopping at South Philly's open-air Italian Market. It's the heart of the annual street festival celebrating the neighborhood's food and the most likely place to be pick-pocketed.
- * If you're lucky, you might even see South Philly's own Italian-American Mafia, the "Philadelphia Crime Family" in action!

For more information and pricing details, contact Elizabeth's replacement in the church office.

Back by Popular Demand,
the Portland Archdioceses
is Pleased to Offer its Annual

Lenten Sinner's Special

Now through Wednesday of Holy Week
Confess up to Ten Venial Sins for only

ONE HAIL MARY!

(Yes, that's right folks, only ONE Hail Mary)
Offer valid at participating parishes only.
Check <https://archdpdx.org/gettofeasy.com>.
Sorry, offer not applicable to Mortal Sins.

Now YOU TOO can turn
WATER INTO WINE



WINE FIZZIES

A PRODUCT OF BIBLICAL PROPORTIONS

Just drop a WINE FIZZY into ordinary tap water and *VOILA!* you'll create delicious wine to enjoy on every special occasion.
Available in Cabernet, Chardonnay & Pinot Noir
In the wine section at all major food stores

The Origin of April Fools' Day

April Fools' Day began in the 1500s when the Gregorian calendar took over from the Julian. Those who forgot the change and attempted to celebrate New Year's (previously celebrated on the 1st of April) on the wrong date were teased as "April fools."

When the western world employed the Julian calendar, years began on March 25. Festivals marking the start of the New Year were celebrated on the first day of April because March 25 fell during Holy Week. The adoption of the Gregorian calendar during the 1500s moved the New Year to January

1. According to the most widely-believed origin postulated for April Fools' Day, those who could be tricked into believing April 1 was still the proper day to celebrate the New Year earned the sobriquet of April fools. To this end, French peasants would unexpectedly drop in on neighbors on that day in a effort to confuse them into thinking they were receiving a New Year's call. Out of that one jape supposedly grew the tradition of testing the patience of family and friends.

But that's only one theory. Others are:

- The timing of this day of pranks seems to be related to the arrival of spring, when nature "fools" mankind with fickle weather, according to the *Encyclopedia of Religion* and the *Encyclopedia Britannica*.
- *The Country Diary of Garden Lore*, which chronicles the goings-on in an English garden, says that April Fools' Day "is thought to commemorate the fruitless mission of the rook (the European crow), who was sent out in search of land from Noah's flood-encircled ark."
- Others theorize it may have something to do with the Vernal Equinox.
- Some think to tie in with the Romans' end-of-winter celebration, Hilaria, and the end of the Celtic new year festival.

Wherever and whenever the custom began, it has since evolved its own lore and set of unofficial rules. Superstition has it that those who fail to respond with good humor to tricks played upon them are said to attract bad luck to themselves. Just sayin' . . .