



The Christmas wreaths will be ready by the end of November. Please sign up in the foyer to pre-order yours.

President: Fr. Tony

Saturday, November 8, 2008 5:00pm	Sunday, November 9, 2008 9:00am	Sunday, November 9, 2008 11:30am
Eucharistic Ministers:		
Barbara Bonk John Bonk Joe Deveaux Bill Sadler Charlotte Sponsel	Kathleen Dunagan Rose Henry Shirley Johnsrud Myrna Cowan Stephanie Cox	Tim Agosti Dave Carey Connie Gatling Lucy Katzenberger Cindy Kircher
Lectors:		
1st reading: Carolyn Cannava 2nd reading: David Nelson	1st reading: Pat Cowan 2nd reading: Barbara O'Lena	1st reading: Dave Carey 2nd reading: Karl Kircher
Altar Servers:		
Hannah Pothast	Jacob O'Lena	Jack Navarro Robert Johnson
Mop & Bucket: 11/3 — 11/8, Al Helminski family Collection Counters: 11/9, Pat & Myrna Cowan		

Safe environment training will be provided this coming **Saturday, November 8th** at the Hall at 10am. This is a required yearly session for all those involved in any activity with youth/vulnerable adults if more than one/two times per year volunteering. Background checks are required every five years for individuals involved in these areas. This session is appropriate and encouraged for all parents also.

Choir practice will begin on **Wednesday nights at 6:30pm**; we will begin rehearsals for Advent/Christmas liturgies. Please join us, either as a singer/instrumentalist.

Calendar November 3 — November 9, 2008 Daily Readings	
November 3, Monday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am	Philippians 2:1-4 Psalm 37:22-23 Luke 14:12-14
November 4, Tuesday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am RCIA 7pm	Philippians 2:5-11 Psalm 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30e, 31-32 Luke: 14:15-24
November 5, Wednesday: Noon Eucharistic Service Morning prayer, 7:30am Choir practice 6:30pm	Philippians 2:12-18 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 Luke 14:25-33
November 6, Thursday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Reconciliation: 11—11:45am Eucharistic Adoration starts after noon service	Philippians 3:3-8a Psalm 37:22-23 Luke 15:1-10
November 7, Friday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Eucharistic Adoration continuous from yesterday, ends before Mass	Philippians 3:17-4:1 Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 Luke 16:1-8
November 8, Saturday: 5pm Mass Reconciliation, 4:00pm Safe Environment Training, 8pm, in the Hall	Philippians 4:10-19 Psalm 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a & 9 Luke 16.9-15
November 9, Sunday: 9:00am, 11:30am Masses	Revelation 21:1 Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17 John 2:13-22



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

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Pastoral Team:
Fr. Tony Dummer, OMI, Moderator
Fr. Andy Sensenig, OMI
Fr. Joe Dowling, OMI
 Phone: 262-4749, Option 3

Bro. Craig Bonham, OMI, Pastoral Associate

Marlys Verba, Parish Director:
 office 262-5542/262-4749 option 4
 Home Phone: 262-8830

Bulletin for November 2, 2008

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The greatest among you will be the one who serves the rest,” Jesus says in today’s Gospel. What wonderful good news for those who give of their time in service to others! (See Matthew 23:11)

The Last Things

The feast of All Souls brings to fond memory our friends who have died. It also reminds us that we will join them. So, it is a good time to review what Christians believe about the end of our earthly journey. We know a little about the doctrines of resurrection, heaven and hell --- but when someone close dies, we want something more personal. So, maybe we can try to personalize or humanize our doctrines a little. Death is classically defined as the separation of soul and body. That was easier to believe when humans were neatly composed of one part soul and one part body. The more we learn, the less we know; even with new science, we can determine death only in some mechanical sense. But in the only sense that matters --- our relationship with God --- all we can say is that death happens when the earthly portion of our pilgrimage is over.

Paul promises that after death comes judgment. With the aid of Last Judgment scenes and the infallible judgment of the “Good Sisters” who taught us all we know about religion, our imaginations conjure up a court trial with God as judge and ourselves as defendants --- with a lengthy list of offenses venial and mortal. Although our sentence is softened by God’s mercy and our incompetence, we still labor under the illusion that our lives must conform to a grid of virtues squared off by vices; that “tits-and-tats”, “quids-and-pros” finally have to balance.

I personally doubt that. I think that in the mind of God there is no mortal or venial, no lie or adultery or theft. I suspect that these are necessary categories for us to examine the various aspects of our lives against, because we are complex creatures. But in the simple truth of God, every fall from grace is simply a lack of love in some form or other. And Judgment is no more than God’s perfect love greeting out lackluster love. In which case, there is no need for accusation or excuse. Love knows when it is wrong or has been wronged. And love knows how to make things right.

So, I believe that Judgment and Purgatory happen simultaneously. Purgatory is **not** a doctrine ---it is a reasonable explanation of the problems of restitution, rehabilitation, punishment and maybe even “cosmic-congruence.” My personal image of Purgatory is the homecoming of the Prodigal Son. Dirty, disheveled, unworthy but achingly lonesome, we go to God when we have nowhere else to go. And Our Father, violently lonesome also, crushes us to himself. And in that awesome embrace, our mangled bodies, our convoluted minds, our tortured souls are excruciatingly wrenched into perfect conformity with God’s crossed love. That is all I dare to think of “come-uppance.”

fr.tony,omi

Annual Stewardship Drive ... Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless people now. ~St. Teresa of Avila~ **Please** consider stewardship as a way of life. What a wonderful way to help Christ carry out His work here on earth. Join us after Mass on Saturday/Sunday this weekend and also on Saturday/Sunday November 8 & 9. Each of us makes a difference. Share you time, talent & treasures with one of the many ministries & win a prize in the drawing being held after the Stewardship drive. “The Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ~Acts 20:35b~

Our Military Care Packages Ministry for the holiday collection begins this weekend and will continue through November 30 with mailing of all packages by December 1. Please add names and addresses of men and women serving in the military in Iraq or Afghanistan on the lists provided on either the bulletin board or the military table in the church foyer. Include the name and phone number of the person submitting the name for contact purposes.

Please bring items to include in the care packages: cards; letters from home, socks, razors, razor blades, shaving cream, small pkgs. wipes, small pkgs. food-canned salmon, trail mix, beef jerky, nuts, AA batteries, current magazines, new paperback books, hard candies, holy cards, prayer cards, religious pamphlets. Monetary donations are welcome—we can do your shopping for you or apply to postage.

Please no home cooked food. Thank you very much for your contributions to this ministry. Last year we mailed 35 boxes to Iraq and Afghanistan that were shared with numerous platoons and warmly received by all. It makes a big difference in the moral of our troops serving overseas to know we are thinking of them and praying for them back home.

Karen Evans 260-3637 or kevans@borough.kenai.ak.us

“Do Not Go”

If you listen to enough commencement speeches, sooner or later you will hear: (and I have used this sentence more than once myself): “Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.” I forget who originally spoke or wrote these words, but they certainly challenge us to be pioneers and trail blazers.

The resurrection of Jesus certainly is my source that keeps me going to these words and continuing to use them. In Jesus’ life, ministry and death, he did not go where the path led. Instead, he took us to new places and new possibilities. When the darkness claimed him that afternoon on the hill of Golgotha, Jesus went into the unknown beyond this life. There, he blazed a trail for us. By his resurrection we see the promise of our own rising. We see a new trail to a place where we will find new life and unimagined possibilities.

fr.tony,omi

Tonight is Teen Night! Join us at 5 p.m. at O.L.P.H. for faith, fellowship and fun as we celebrate a teen-centered, family-welcome mass, a teen-only dinner and a trip through the Hay Maze. A sign up sheet and permission slips are in the foyer next to the teen bulletin board. Transportation to Solid Rock will be provided. Cost is \$5 per teen; financial-need scholarships are available. For more information, contact Adam Bell at 262-4956.

A big **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who helped in any way with the Oktoberfest week-end. We raised just over \$22,000.00 — which is way-awesome!!!!

Raffle Winners:

- 1st. place — Viola Davis
- 2nd place — Cindy Darning
- 3rd place — Linda O’Brien
- 4th place — Lou and Lucy Katzenberger
- 5th place — split between Ann Miller, Tammy Slone and Pat Murray