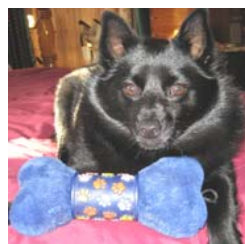


President: Fr. Joe

BLESSING OF ANIMALS will be Saturday at 3pm at the portico of the church. Please bring your pets to church in honor of St. Francis of Assisi for a special blessing by Father Joe.



Loving Hearts, Caring Hands day of outreach on Saturday, October 11th at 1pm-3pm at the hall; please join us for service projects around church and for our elders in town; we will be raking leaves, washing windows, cleaning up before winter; please join us.

EARTH ANGELS: A special thank you to the five angels who helped with cleanup last Friday; you did an awesome job and what a beautiful day it was !

Meetings:

Stewardship meeting, September 30th, 3:30pm in the Hall.
 Generations of Faith meetings, 6:30pm Tuesday September 30th
 Parent meeting for students in First Reconciliation on October 11th, 10am in the Hall.

Baptismal Class for parents is scheduled for October 21 at 7pm in the hall. Please call to register: 262-5542.

Calendar September 29 — October 5, 2008

September 29, Monday: Noon Mass
 Morning prayer, 7:30am

September 30, Tuesday: Noon Mass
 Morning prayer, 7:30am

Stewardship Meeting, 3:30pm
Generations of Faith meetings, 6:30pm, please join us planning our first event

October 1, Wednesday: Noon Mass
 Morning prayer, 7:30am

October 2, Thursday: Noon Mass
 Morning prayer, 7:30am
 Reconciliation: 11—11:45am
 Eucharistic Adoration starts after noon service

October 3, Friday: Noon Mass
 Morning prayer, 7:30am
 Eucharistic Adoration continuous from yesterday, ends before noon Mass

October 4, Saturday: 5pm Mass
 Reconciliation, 4:00pm

October 5, Sunday: 9:00am, 11:30am Masses



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

Phone: 262-4749 O'Neill Hall & Fax: 262-5542
 Prayer Chain: pjham@att.net, Pat Hamilton, 262-5250

Email: olph@alaska.net
 Website: www.olph.cc

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 September 28, 2008

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The first son in today's Gospel said he would do his father's bidding, but did not. The second son balked at first, but then repented and did as he was asked. What service in god calling me to do? Which son am I more like?

Saturday, October 4, 2008 5:00pm	Sunday, October 5, 2008 9:00am	Sunday, October 5, 2008 11:30am
Eucharistic Ministers:		
Cathy Atkinson Cheryl Hammarstrom Steve Hammarstrom Bill Sadler Charlotte Sponsel	Cindy Irwen Theresa Carroll Ron O'Lena Tonilyn Spring Remy Spring	Shirley Aleckson Thelma Antila Marguerite McIntosh Marylou Nushart Lynn Senette
Lectors:		
1st reading: Monty Murray 2^{ns} reading: Tamara Slone	1st reading: Laurie Kapp 2nd reading: Eli Woodvine	1st reading: Jean Kudyba 2nd reading: Jackie Swanson
Altar Servers:		
Hannah Pothast	Nathan O'Lena Mark West	Edward Johnson Jack Navarro
Mop & Bucket: 9/29 — 10/4 , Greg Gabriel family Collection Counters: 10/5 , Pat & Myrna Cowan		

A NEW CHALLENGE

We are living in times that present tremendous new challenges for developing a Catholic Way of Life and sharing our Catholic faith with the next generation. Within my lifetime, we have all experienced the gradual loss of a distinctive Catholic culture, held together by multi-generational families, ethnic parishes and Catholic schools, all set within a local neighborhood. As I grew up, I was literally immersed in the Catholic way of life 24/7, 365 days a year. This was a Catholicism grounded in community and tradition.

Today, Catholics are not as immersed in Catholic culture and Catholic social networks. Today for Catholics, personal choice and religious individualism are dominant. We need to be honest with ourselves; what we have experienced over the years, is the transformation of Catholicism from a perceived church of obligation and obedience to a church of choice.

So the question is:

How can parish faith formation in the Catholic Church respond to the urgency of our present and future situation?

More to follow in the weeks to come.

Fr. Tony, OMI

Marriage Information Night will be offered here on **Friday, October 3.** The Archdiocese of Anchorage Family Life Ministries will present several opportunities for anyone interested in finding out more about what it means to be married in the Catholic church. Representatives from Engage Encounter, World Wide Marriage Encounter, Natural Family Planning and Retrouvaille, along with Fr. Thomas Brundage, the Archdiocesan Judicial Vicar will be among the presenters at this presentation. Please put this date on your calendar to attend. Further info: **Marlys 262-5542**

Teen Night is scheduled for Sunday October 5th at O.L.P.H. from 5 to 8 p.m. Come join us for faith, fellowship and fun as we celebrate a teen-centered, family-welcome mass, a teen-only dinner and a few rounds of laser tag at Hawk's Games. Sign up is this weekend in the foyer next to the teen bulletin board. Transportation will be provided. Cost is \$5 per teen; financial-need scholarships are available. For more information, contact **Adam Bell at 262-4956.**

Flu shots will be available for those age 11 up to those Medicare eligible next weekend, October 4/5 after all Masses. The Parish Health Ministry will be hosting. Permission sheets and sign up sheet is in the foyer; Cost is \$30/ unless there are over twenty people signing up, the cost is then \$27. Those Medicare eligible will be free.

Empty But Full

Jesus did not grasp his equality with God. He made the decision to somehow let go of the privileges and power that were his and to live as one of us. I think that it's far beyond our understanding to see how Jesus could have done this, but what is within our understanding is to see that we are called to this kind of emptying in our lives. Jesus emptied himself of what was rightfully his so that he could become one of us. It was the ultimate act of empathy. Empathy is the ability to understand the life experience of another person, and the desire and capacity to enter the world of that other person. It is probably the highest form of understanding and compassion. Deep experiences of empathy can change your life in a radical way. You see and experience life in a new way, and because of this new way of seeing, you then change your own way of living.

In order to promote a deeper understanding of others, social awareness movements often have people engage in what is called an urban plunge. They go out on the streets of some inner city neighborhood with nothing but the clothes on their back. (We often had them in our parish in Oakland when I was working on the streets myself.) The person would live on the streets for twenty-four hours, trying to survive like any other homeless person would.

In our own lives, we need to make a similar kind of plunge. If we're wondering where to start, it's often a good idea to start right where we live. Somehow we need to get inside the world of those people who are closest to us. We often need to empty ourselves of false ideas and judgments we may be carrying about the people with whom we live. When a person tries to really enter into the life of another person, you can be sure of one thing --- suffering will certainly come. Just as Jesus accepted death as the final emptying of himself, so we will undergo suffering as we try to enter one another's lives. But it all leads to more life, now, and in the future which God has prepared for us.

Fr. Tony, OMI

Star Training, required by the Archdiocese for safe environment, will be presented on Saturday October 4th, O'Neill Hall at 1pm. All parents; those involved in faith formation programs other than a couple of times volunteering in a year; those involved with youth activities and other volunteering for activities with children and vulnerable adults are required to take the approximate 1 hour class which will also review the archdiocesan policy.

Help!! We are looking for an adult parishioner, preferably STAR trained, to provide child care during the Bible Timeline studies on Sundays after 11:30 Mass. There are a lot of young adults who would like to attend the studies, but are in need of childcare. We already have two young ladies to help, but need an adult. If you are interested in helping us, please call or email **Heather Stockton at 260-6581** or heatherlynns2003@yahoo.com

FAMILY COMMITMENT PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Lord of Love,
With the help of your grace,
we commit ourselves to a life of holiness:
to living out our baptismal promises
by following your will every day, practicing forgiveness,
and loving you, ourselves, and one another.

Help us to trust in your gift of the Holy Spirit,
to rely on his help
and to follow him even when we feel sick, tired and overwhelmed.

We entrust ourselves to you and to one another:
our lives, our dignity, our fears, our dreams, and our hopes.
In all the we are and do,
may we be more like your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
the eternal World of God.

We commit ourselves to make the Word of God a living part of our
home by
reading the Scriptures together as a family,
treating each other with dignity and respect,
and keeping the name of Jesus on our lips and in our hearts.

We, _____ (each says name) make this commitment
in Jesus' name. AMEN!

Use the Prayer:

- Say it together with all family members at one time.
- Assign different verses for each family member to say aloud.
- Take turns reciting the lead lines of each stanza and rest respond.
- Recite lines from the prayer with different emotions: solemn, excited, etc.
- Choose different verses to take to work, school and recite during the day.

Annual Stewardship Drive ... "The Lord does us the honor of placing his confidence in us and calling us to the ministry, showing us his mercy. This call is not reserved for a few it is for everyone, each in his own state of life." ~Pope John Paul II~ Join us after Mass on Sat/Sun Oct. 11th & 12th and also on Sat/Sun Oct. 18th & 19th. Please take this opportunity to share your time & talent with our Church family & win a prize in the drawings being held after the Stewardship Drive. Find out what ministries are in need of your talents. "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. ~1Peter 4:10~