

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help

## Catholic Community

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 15, 2009

Served by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

**222 West Redoubt Avenue Soldotna, AK**

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		<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
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Fr. Tony Dummer	Priest Moderator	262-4749, Option 3	<a href="mailto:tonyomi@ptialaska.net">tonyomi@ptialaska.net</a>
Fr. Andrew	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	<a href="mailto:andyomi@gmail.com">andyomi@gmail.com</a>
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Bro. Craig	Pastoral Associate	262-4749, Option 3	<a href="mailto:cbonham081@gmail.com">cbonham081@gmail.com</a>

**SUNDAY LITURGY:** Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am and 11:30am  
First Sunday of month, Youth Ministry 5pm

**WEEKDAY LITURGY:** Monday through Friday, 12:05pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Thursday 11:00 – 11:45am  
Saturday 4:00 – 4:45pm

**Sacrament of Anointing of Sick:** Available during the Sunday masses, or as needed.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** for children – Parents Prep class required. Call Marlys for reservations.  
Best done prior to birth.  
for adults – Contact the office about RCIA

**Sacrament of Marriage:** 6 month process (several classes and FOCUS Test and/or Engaged Encounter, or Couple to Couple...contact a priest.

**Pastoral Council:** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (usually)

**Prayer Chain:** [pjham@att.net](mailto:pjham@att.net), Pat Hamilton 262-5250

**Sexual Abuse Victim Assistance Coordinator:** Marlys Verba

Please Note: Submissions/articles for the weekly bulletin via email must be in by Thursdays at noon to Marlys: [marlys.verba@gmail.com](mailto:marlys.verba@gmail.com) and you may send a copy to: [csponset@acsalaska.net](mailto:csponset@acsalaska.net)

## The Road of Risks

*Stand at the crossroads and look, ask for the ancient paths; Which was the good way? Take it, and you find rest for yourselves.*

*Jeremiah 6: 16*

My friend Ron Rolheiser always says: "Our life is a journey. We are always on the road." Each time another January comes around, we always have an opportunity to pause, to see where we have been, to notice how far we have come, and to take a moment and reflect on how that journey has been for us. It gives us time to clear our vision, refresh our dreams and again set out on the journey that is ours.

As I do with Christmas Eve, I always seem to reflect back and see how differently I have entered each new year. When in Hawaii, one has a different perspective on the holidays than one does in Tijuana, LA or St. Louis. Some end of year times were full of pain, struggle and tears. Others have had pronounced contentment and peace of heart --- much gratitude for the year gone by that was so full of wonderful events and growth.

This is the time of the year I get out my road maps of life. As I look back over the past year, I identify the places and people that have blessed me, affirmed me, enlivened me and enriched me. Yes, there are also those situations that have challenged me, tested me, exhausted and discouraged me or even tried to destroy me.

Once I have looked back, then I take time to look at my present situation. Am I ready for the road ahead: resources, refuel, energy, continue, baggage, nourishment, style of travel, back roads, other? When I see those dead-ends, road-closed or detour signs, then I know that I have hit some old destructive behaviors, negative patterns of thinking or abusive situations. We cannot hold on to these old behaviors and still move on with life. Maybe it is our fast-moving express-way of life --- the "whiz" road of life; maybe it is disappointment or no destination, going nowhere; mabe it is those we travel with whom we no longer have trust.

I tried to take this to scripture and see others who have made journeys. The road of Faith of Abraham and Sarah was a great beginning for me. The road to forgiveness of Jacob's sons to visit Joseph was also helpful. The road through the wilderness for the Exodus people, the crowded road to Bethlehem, the star-marked road of the Magi, the road of the Prodigal Son, the pain-filled road to Jerusalem, the road to the empty tomb and the road to Emmaus.

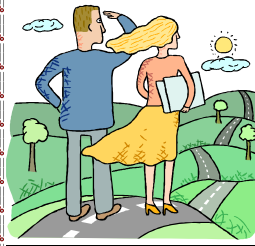
These are only a few -- and I find that these paths are sometimes my roads too. When I experience times of challenge and sorrow, challenge to let go, sorrow and struggle to forgive, then I experience some of the above. Oh, I also have long periods of peace and contentment when I can leave behind old wounds and worn-out hurts. But the one road I identify the most with is the **road of risks** ---

the risks of the Exodus people. Risks that are necessary in order to move forward in life. If you label the road behind you: "No longer an option", then you can learn from the past and go forward into the future of 2005.

Whenever we walk into a new year, there is always the unknown and new events to surprise us. I try to see only life for today. But I can risk the road because I have the assurance that God goes with me on the journey.

Let us trust our God as we enter into this New Year of '09. I am confident that there will be sufficient strength and beauty amid all the pain and hard work to sustain us and keep us moving. Happy 2009!

Fr. Tony, OMI



## A LOOK AHEAD:

### Quilting for Octoberfest — Join the Fun

When: Thursdays

Time: 10:00am to 3:00pm

Lunch Provided (yum)

Place: O'Neill Hall

We will again be working on wool quilts. Also our wool rug. We need willing workers — no experience necessary, everyone Welcome. If questions, call **Pat Murray at 262-7801**.

We are very excited in that we have many people who are interested in another class for the Rite of Christian Initiation, to learn more about our faith. We will begin another session on March 3. If you know of anyone interested in learning more about our faith, please have them call the office at 262-5542 or Shirley at 262-9654.

**WE WILL HAVE GENERATIONS OF FAITH NEXT SUNDAY TO BEGIN WITH A MEAL AT 12:30PM, AFTER MASS. PLEASE JOIN US IN THE REDEMPTORIST CENTER. WE NEED TO HAVE EVERYONE RSVP, IF THEY ARE COMING OR REGISTER IF THEY HAVE NOT YET DONE SO. DO YOU NEED CHILDCARE? WE NEED TO KNOW THAT ALSO. PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE FOYER.**

## Ministry of Mothers Sharing—MOMS Group.

Visit the Information & Registration Table this weekend after all the Masses.

Sessions will begin on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> in O'Neill Hall. Participants **MUST** register no later than February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Questions? Call **Sheilah-Margaret Pothast at 262-8551** or email at [agr8fulmom@hotmail.com](mailto:agr8fulmom@hotmail.com).

**B**ible Time line meets today after the 11:30am Mass. We will be studying lesson 11. The reading for this less is 1 Samuel. Then class will meet again on March 1<sup>st</sup>, when lessons 12 will be covered. Please read 2 Samuel and 1 Kings 1-11. We will be handing out a schedule today for the classes throughout the rest of this year. Please make sure you get one from Brother Craig. Any questions please call **Kris at 776-7693**.

**O**LPH will have a team for the Relay for Life May 29<sup>th</sup> at Skyview High School. We are looking for energetic folks willing to help brainstorm fundraising ideas, recruit walkers and help guide us as “We Race for a Cure”. Interested? Please call **Alyson at 389-3235** or email [fishhappens@gci.net](mailto:fishhappens@gci.net).

**T**hank you for your support! There is a nice letter on the bulletin board from the orphanage in Kenya thanking us for our \$2,000 donation which they used to upgrade their financial system.

The special collection for Catholic Home Missions was \$1,926.87; for Black/Indian Missions was \$1,526.13; for the food bank from Souper Bowl Sunday, \$134.17.

**Y**outh Ministry High School Retreat Saturday March 7, 9:30am to 4:30pm. Called to Action: Homelessness—What can we do about it? Retreat will focus on homeless teens on the peninsula. For more information, call **Janet Shapley at 262-7313**.

**I** am assuming the duty of scheduling of Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors for a period of time. Would all of the Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors please send me their email addresses to make sure I have all of the correct ones for mailing out the schedules? My email address is [aktbone@yahoo.com](mailto:aktbone@yahoo.com). Thanks, Tonilyn Spring.

**R**edemptorist Center Dedication DVD are now available at the Coffee Cart — \$15.00. Proceeds to support Redemptorist Mission Orphanage in Thailand.

### Calendar for February 16, 2009 — February 22, 2009, with Daily Readings

February 16, Monday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am	February 17, Tuesday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am RCIA, 7pm	February 18, Wednesday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am	February 19, Thursday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Eucharistic Adoration starts after noon service	February 20, Friday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Eucharistic Adoration ends before noon service	February 21, Saturday: 5pm Mass Reconciliation 4:00pm Music practice 1pm	February 22, Sunday: 9:00am, 11:30am Masses
Genesis 4:1-15, 25 Psalm 50:1&8, 16bc-17, 20-21 Mark 8:11-13	Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-15, 10 Psalm 29:1a & 2, 3ac-4, 3b & 9c-10 Mark 8:14-21	Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22 Psalm 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 Mark 8:22-26	Genesis 9:1-13 Psalm 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 & 22-23 Mark 8:27-33	Genesis 11:1-9 Psalm 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15 Mark 8:34-9:1	Hebrews 11:1-7 Psalm 145:2-3, 4- 5, 10-11 Mark 9:2-13	Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25 Psalm 41:2-3, 4-5, 13-14 2 Corinthians 1:18-22 Luke 4-18

#### Saturday, February 21, 2009, 5:00pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Cathy Atkinson, Kathy Bongiovanni, Carm Bongiovanni, Cheryl Hammarstrom, Steve Hammarstrom

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup>. Reading: David Nelson; 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Christine Ermold

**Altar Server:** Server needed

#### Sunday, February 22, 2009, 9:00pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rose Henry, Joan Jones, Bob Ermold, Dave Carey, Barbara O'Lena

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup>. Reading: Laurie Kapp; 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Eli Woodvine

**Altar Server:** Alex Agosti

#### Sunday, February 22, 2009, 11:30pm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Shirley Aleckson, Thelma Antila, Lucy Katzenberger, Marguerite McIntosh, Shirley Twohy

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup>. Reading: Jackie Swanson; 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Kathy Walker

**Altar Server:** Jack Navarro

**Mop & Bucket 2/16—2/21:** Rosemary Carroll Family **Collection Counters: 2/22:** Connie Gatling, Jacquie Moxey

# Financial Report

## Ex-Leper?

In a movie by Monty Python called "The Life of Brian" there is an entertaining scene where Brian (the main character) runs into an ex-leper who is still asking for alms. As the scene progresses, Brian finds out that the leper is healed by Jesus, but the ex-leper is not happy at all. He loves begging too much to go on and make a new life for himself.

The Gospel reading for today, we have Jesus encountering a leper (Mark 1:40-45) and it has the leper expressing faith in Jesus' healing ability. Jesus does heal the leper and tells him not to tell anyone. Yet this ex-leper does not do that, he goes off and spreads the "Good News" of Jesus has done for him and it is so effective that everyone is searching high and low for Jesus!

Which kind of ex-leper would you be? The one found in Monty Python's "The Life of Brian" or the one in Mark's Gospel?

The first one does not want Jesus to heal him really, because it requires him to change his life, because he has gotten used to the limits and restrictions his life and how other treat him, he does not want to become a proclaimer of the Good News and the later one does everything in his power to share it with everyone and everywhere. The ex-leper in the Gospel of Mark is changed completely.

What kind of ex-leper would you welcome in your life?

The reason why I ask this question is because often times when person, you know, is becoming well, especially from drugs and alcohol addiction may mean that you will be required to change how you view the person, treat them and even act around them. We (at least I am) are tempted to welcome the Monty Python's ex-leper with open arms, because we (at least I am) do not have to change. The ex-leper in today's Gospel would require me to change on many levels and yes, "change" can be wonderful but it is also very disturbing.

But if we really want to be people of the Gospel, we are required to change, and if we don't then we will never be Jesus' followers.

Enjoy the week!  
Fr. Andy OMI

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**Fiscal Year 2008-'09  
First Six Months**

### Income:

Offertory	156,174.02
Donations (Ext)	25,000.00
Building Fund	26,371.42
Miscel	<u>2,639.10</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>210,184.54</b>

### Expenses

Salaries	32,646.30
Insurance & Taxes	12,187.40
Supplies	9,052.93
Repairs & Contracts	3,610.91
Utilities & Tel	13,340.34
Wrshps & charity	4,319.00
Renovations	34,794.58
Dio Assessment	24,644.79
Miscell	3,791.74
K.C. Loan	<u>29,653.11</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>168,041.10</b>

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**O'Neill Hall** The New Stove is ready for use. We ask that everyone using the stove be inserviced:

- Lighting the ovens (convection)
- Lighting and using the griddle
- Cleaning of griddle

Also, there is an in-service on use and cleaning of dishwasher. Chef Dan Murray will be available after 9:00am Mass beginning February 1 or you may call him at 260-4474 to set up a time that would be convenient for both of you to meet.

In helping us assess the use of O'Neill Hall, there will be a book available in the kitchen. We ask that you please fill in when you have an activity such as a meeting, youth group, activity, reception, etc. Thank you for your cooperation.

New entry way rugs and anti-fatigue mats are coming.

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