

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 18, 2010

Homily Next Week:

Fr. Jack O'Leary, S.J.

Readings for

July 25, 2010

FIRST READING: GENESIS 18:20-32

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 2:12-14

GOSPEL: LUKE 11:1-13

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5 p.m.

Sunday - 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday - 7:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:30-4:15 p.m. in the Church
or by appointment

Parish Center Hours

Monday-Thursday - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday - 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

www.stjosephparish.org

732 18th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112

Fax: (206) 329-5698

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Parish Staff

(206) 329-5981

Pastor

Rev. John D. Whitney, S.J. x107

Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. Jack O'Leary, S.J. x101

Deacon/Pastoral Associate

Steve Wodzanowski x106

Pastoral Staff:

Dottie Farewell, Pre-K to 8th Faith Form. x112

Dennis Gentele, Facilities x110

Renée Leet, Administrative Assistant x100

Bob McCaffery-Lent, Music & Liturgy x109

Marti McGaughey, Bookkeeper x102

Greg McNabb, Administration x108

Anne Moran, Administrative Assistant x116

Randy Novak, High School Youth x114

St. Joseph School

700 18th Avenue East • (206) 329-3260

Main Office x210

George Hoffbauer, Principal x213

Rick Boyle, Academic Vice Principal x215

Patrick Fennessy, Vice Principal x218

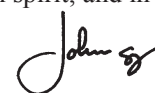
Back from Africa: the Language of Grace

After more than 30 hours of travel, I returned to Seattle last weekend just in time for the 5:00 pm mass. This week, beginning to reflect on the journey, I remain grateful for our hosts and for my traveling companions: Nick Reykdal, George Finn, and Donna Larsen, from St. Joseph, as well as Donna's daughter, Montana, and George's new bride, Melissa York, all of whom visited our sister school at Kinango; Diana Hautala, from St. Francis Parish School, along with Briana Stein and Jennifer Helzer, who visited Ndavaya; Erin Vickers and Rachel Falkner of Eastside Catholic, who visited Bamba Parish and its primary and secondary schools; and Joe Whitford of our Parish and the Friends of Seattle-Mombasa Schools, who traveled with me to all the sites. Much more will be forthcoming about how our Parish might grow in our friendship towards this region, but for now, some first thoughts.

So often in the United States the image we have of Africa is one of horror and disease, of failed states and starving children, of war and refugees. Yet, the truth is that Kenya, for all its needs, is filled with light and life, with a young population proud of their country and eager to make a difference in the world; where education and common effort is seen as a pathway by which Africans will solve the challenges of Africa and contribute to the healing of the world. What we encountered, in the faces of the children and teachers, in the classrooms and in the churches, were people alive to the Spirit of God, and to the spirit of the community. Without many of the things we take for granted, without our technology and infrastructure, the students at every level still understood the liberating possibilities of education. Indeed, for many of the students we met, it was clear that education was itself a radical act of faith, one that did not guarantee economic security (or even a job) but which was the only way for Kenya to move forward and avoid more centuries of exploitation from outside its borders.

I have seen poverty in various parts of the world—in Micronesia and in the villages of Alaska, in parts of Mexico and in Colombia, in northern Uganda and along the West Bank of the Jordan—so I was not shocked by the conditions in Kenya. I was not surprised to have to “shower” in a basin or see women walking the roads with children on their lower backs and bundles on their head. Yet, I was surprised by the level of hope and the zeal of the young teachers and students, pastors and parishioners with whom we met; I was surprised by the immense joy of the vice principal at one school who told how his school had moved from a “D” rating to a “C-” —for the first time achieving the level of average performance, which meant that some students would likely get into university. In a community where parents stress over students with a “mere” 3.5 average, and college is taken for granted, the joy of this administrator was like a cold splash of water, reminding me that success is relative, and that joy—rather than stress—should be at the center of our lives.

Languages have never been a gift of mine, yet I have learned that a well-aimed camera—especially when the digital image is readily accessible—speaks to people (especially children) in a way that needs no translation. And the camera often captures things that the rational, problem-solving mind can miss. Returning from Africa, it is easy to concentrate again on the problems of Kenya and how we can (or cannot) fix them. But when I see the images (all 2,234 or so), I remember something more than problems; in the eyes of the children and teachers, the parents and grandparents, I see the sacrament of God which is the human spirit; and in that moment, I hear the language of grace, common to us all.



Calendar

Monday, July 19	Sacred Silence, 7 PM
Sunday, July 25	Come to the Quiet, 5 PM Feast of Ignatius Celebration 6:30 PM

**NEXT WEEKEND
WE CELEBRATE
FR. JACK'S
50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF HIS ORDINATION
TO THE PRIESTHOOD!**

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For Margaret Read, for Karol Tomaszewski and for Sonja...

Prayer Tree



"My grace is enough for you, for in weakness power reaches perfection" ~2 Corinthians 12:9

Come and See

What the Catholic Faith has to offer!

- *Are you, your spouse, a friend, or an acquaintance a member of another faith tradition but worship regularly here at St. Joseph's?*
- *Are you experiencing God's call in your life and seeking Baptism or full communion with the Catholic Church?*
- *If you are, please consider participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. The RCIA is an opportunity to explore with others what the Catholic Church has to offer. It is an opportunity, through a process of discernment and gradual conversion to become a full member of the Catholic Church.*

If you are interested contact Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at 329-5981x106 or stevew@stjosephparish.org. We would be happy to meet with you and provide further information.

JustFaith

Begins a 30 week program in mid-September. *JustFaith* invites parishioners to experience a spiritual journey into compassion. Space is limited and you must pre-register and be interviewed to participate. For more information contact Meghan Mayo at meghan.m.mayo@gmail.com or Lisa Krogman at lkrogman@comcast.net or Deacon Steve at 965-1646.



Summer 3-Day Ignatian Retreat at Palisades Retreat Center

On the Path of Ignatius: A Pilgrimage of the Heart

July 30—August 1, 2010

Presented by Frank Case, SJ, Carolyn Hickman, & John Fuchs, SJ

For more information visit us at www.ignatiancenter.org or contact info@ignatiancenter.org or call 206-329-4824



PSBC Blood Drive

This week's drive was the largest turnout at a summer drive since 2003. The past week has been very hard on our community's blood supply with many types dropping by more than 20%. This drive gave our supply a much-needed boost.

Yesterday, 44 people registered to donate. Of these, our staff was able to collect 39 units of volunteered blood. There were even 4 first time donors! That means this drive went towards saving or dramatically improving the lives of up to 117 patients in the Puget Sound area. In a matter of days/weeks, the blood volunteered by your donors will be in a local hospital helping a patient in need. Thank you for your dedication to the health of our community.

These donors will be eligible to donate again on September 6. Our next blood drive is scheduled for September 13.



St. Martin de Porres Shelter

The shelter is in desperate need of large towels, washcloths, and men's bathrobes. We will be collecting these every Sunday through the summer. Please bring these items from your linen closet and help those who are living on the streets feel the love of our congregation. You can place them in the laundry bins in the church vestibule. Contact: Sue Georgulas 206-910-7418 or sueginwa@hotmail.com for details.