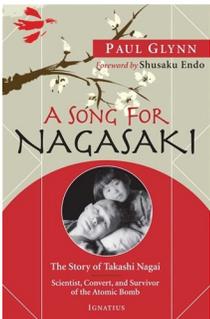




Jesus Walks on Water
Ivan Konstantinovich Aivassovski (1817-1900)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Today is the 75th anniversary of the bombing of the holy city of Urakami, Nagasaki, Japan, just three days after the bombing of Hiroshima on August 6th. I call the city "holy" because of its remarkable Catholic history, a history that commands our respect. There is simply no time to get into all of the details, but Urakami was a thoroughly Catholic city, it was a city of martyrs, it was a city that kept the faith under unimaginable persecution for 400 years. During that time Catholics were hunted, spied upon, and if caught, they were tortured and put to death. 400 years! And the light of faith never dimmed in all of that time.



Last year I made some materials available regarding the Servant of God Dr. Takashi Nagai, a survivor of the atomic blast whose cause is presently up for canonization. This year I am making available a text in his own words. The text is a funeral address that his bishop asked him to deliver on the occasion of the funeral of the 8000 Catholic victims of the bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki on this day 75 years ago.

If you are able to find a copy of *The Bells of Nagasaki* by Dr. Nagai, I highly recommend it, but it is difficult to find now that it has been out of print for several years. However, a great second choice is *A Song for Nagasaki* by Paul Glynn. As is always the case there is more to the story than what was recorded in history books and taught to us while we were in school.

As we navigate through our own times of trial and difficulty, one can only hope to see things with the simplicity of faith and the purity of heart of a Dr. Nagai. He has much to teach our suffering world about the consequences of sin and what we must do if we truly desire peace and wish to avoid war. Please, give him a hearing.

God bless,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson

Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9 August 2020

Sacred Heart, Ronan
Immaculate Conception, Polson
St. Joseph Mission, Charlo

Parish Office

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Mass Schedule

Saturday at 6:00 pm

Immaculate Conception
The Intentions of Rita Rebein
Confessions are available at 5:00 pm

Sunday

Sacred Heart at 8:30 am
Vicki Rogers
Immaculate Conception at 10:30 am
Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Wednesday at 12:10 pm

Immaculate Conception
For the Deceased Priests of the Diocese of Helena
Confessions are heard at 11:30 am and again immediately after Mass during a period of Eucharistic Adoration. The rite of Benediction is celebrated at 1:30 pm.



Unless you have suffered and wept, you really don't understand what compassion is, nor can you give comfort to someone who is suffering. If you haven't cried, you can't dry another's eyes. Unless you've walked in darkness, you can't help wanderers find the way. Unless you've looked into the eyes of menacing death and felt its hot breath, you can't help another rise from the dead and taste anew the joy of being alive.

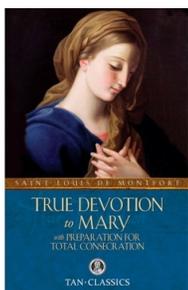
-Takashi Nagai

FOOD BANKS

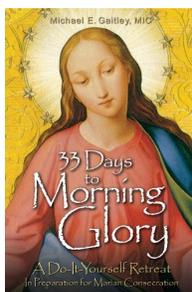
At the beginning of the crisis our parish offered economic support to our two area food banks and I asked that we all do our best to remember others during this time of difficulty. I have spoken to folks from both food banks and both have expressed gratitude for the outpouring of support from the local community, but people remain in need and food goes fast. At this time dairy seems to top the list of things that are needed. Please consider dropping a check in the mail to either of our two food banks and help them stock the items that are most necessary. Thank you!

Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary

A consecration to the Blessed Mother ought not be just a one time thing, in fact it can and ought to be renewed once, twice or even more times a year as part of our celebration of the various feast days dedicated in her honor.



Each consecration and renewal is preceded by 33 days of prayerful preparation and there are two principle resources available to help you do just that. One is the traditional and timeless classic *True Devotion to Mary* (with preparation for total consecration) by St. Louis de Montfort, and *33 Days to Morning Glory* by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. Fr. Gaitley follows the program of St. Louis de Montfort



but supplements the preparation with material from St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. Pope John Paul II (this is the one I personally use). There is of course, an app as well. Of course there would be. The app is called *Totally Yours* and is the method recommended by St. Louis de Montfort.

I plan on renewing my consecration on September 15th which is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Please join me spiritually in this renewal which begins on Thursday, August 13th. Mass will be offered on the feast day itself. If you have never made a Marian consecration, please consider it and come to enjoy the fruits and benefits of this devotion which is so highly recommended.

Humbly asking for your prayers

Marcy Bishop, Mary Oulette, Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Lou Marchello, Patricia Kelly, Glen Rogers, Liz Hipp, Michael Conrad, Neil Miskimins, Ellen Holland, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Leonard & Gail Piedalue, Anonymous Request (Greatly Improved!), Kate Shrider Olsen, Don Herbst, Len Moeder, Bill Nash, another Anonymous Request.

Please help to keep the list current by contacting the Parish Office. Also, out of respect for a person's privacy, please make sure that all individuals wish to be publicly identified.

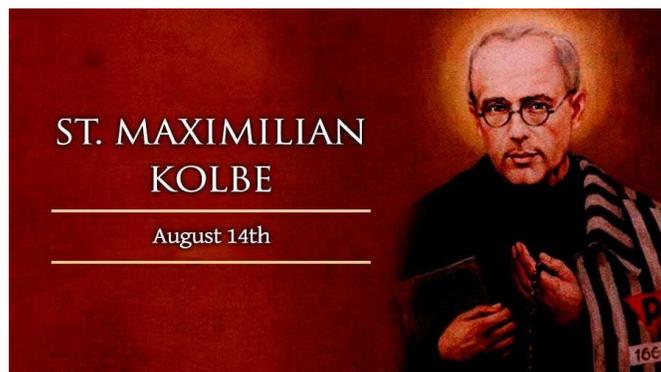
Grace be to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for you all; Making a remembrance of you in our prayers without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 1:2

The Holy Father's prayer intention for August

The Maritime World We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Please pray for our seminarians!

Dillon Armstrong, Tyler Frohlich, Matthew Christians, Kyle Tannehill and Kaleb Michell



Modern times are dominated by Satan and will be more so in the future. The conflict with hell cannot be engaged by men, even the most clever. The Immaculata alone has from God the promise of victory over Satan. However, assumed into Heaven, the Mother of God now requires our cooperation. She seeks souls who will consecrate themselves entirely to her, who will become in her hands effective instruments for the defeat of Satan and the spreading of God's kingdom upon earth.

The most deadly poison of our time is indifference.

No one in the world can change Truth. What we can do and should do is to seek truth and to serve it when we have found it. The real conflict is the inner conflict. Beyond armies of occupation and the hecatombs [e.g. the sacrifice of many victims] of extermination camps, there are two irreconcilable enemies in the depth of every soul: good and evil, sin and love. And what use are the victories on the battlefield if we ourselves are defeated in our innermost personal selves?

Jesus honored her before all ages, and will honor her for all ages. No one comes to Him, nor even near Him, no one is saved or sanctified, if he too will not honor her. This is the lot of Angels and of men.

