

You Decide

We normally take great pride in making our own decisions. When we did this as children, it was a sign that we were growing up; as adolescents, it was a proclamation of independence. Now as adults, when making decisions we demonstrate that we are self-directed. The problem doesn't seem to lie in decision-making itself but in the options given to us that require a decision. And there is the rub. Often these are options not of our choosing. This can make decision-making very difficult.

Today's Gospel is all about making decisions. Options are placed before us. We either choose Jesus and the extraordinary way of life that he has outlined for us, or we go along with the movements of society. This could include making money at any cost, denying hospitality to those who knock on our door, harboring an attitude of superiority over others. We either choose to live in the light with the insights that our faith provides, or we simply accept the values that bombard us each day through the media, namely: Me first. What's mine is mine. What's in it for me? Not in my back yard.

If we look carefully, we will realize that the way of life Jesus promotes is based on the dignity of each person, who is made in the image and likeness of God. Actions that dismiss, demean, damage, or destroy human life are contrary to the teaching, life, and example of Jesus. Accepting his way brings forth a new society called "the reign of God." Rejecting it will undermine the foundations of the society we have. Which will it be? You decide.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

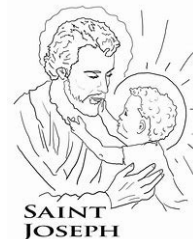
For Reflection

- * How might you have compromised your religious values in order to get by in life?
- * Might God be asking you to choose something new?



And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.

JOHN 3:19



OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH

Bishop Folda has asked all of our priests to consecrate their parishes to St. Joseph during this year dedicated to him. (Pope Francis on Dec. 8th dedicated this year to the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and patron of the universal church) Our consecration will take place next Sunday at St. Agnes and Our Lady of Peace. St Joseph's feast is Mar. 19th.

PENANCE SERVICE —OLP next Sun, Mar 21 4:00pm

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon 3/15 OLP 11:00am +Richard Meyer
Tue 3/16 OLP 5:00pm +AnnaMarie Stalzer
 Wed. 3/17 OLP 9:00am +Roth Family
 Thur 3/18 OLP 9:00:am +Wm Vogt
 Fri 3/19 OLP 9:00am +Michael & Susan Denis
 Sat 3/20 OLP 5:00pm +Wm & Katie Bronner
 Sun 3/21 OLP 10:30am +James Geever
 St. Agnes 8:30am For the People

STATIONS OF THE CROSS- FRIDAYS 7:00 PM

OLP STEWARDSHIP 3/7

Adult	\$1225.00
Plate	\$44.00
Votive	\$13.00
<u>Bldg Maint</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>
Total	\$1412.00
(Easter flower total-\$180)	

OLP prayer chain information
 Julie Lipsiea 786-2138 or Julie.lipsiea@may-portcg.com;
 Marge Spies 788-8775 or maggiejj@yahoo.com or
 Dee VonRuden 788-3334

Mary candle- special intention

ST AGNES PARISH

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God-given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, **and in gratitude generously give back with increase our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church.**” Stewardship Moments

The time has come as your pastor to ask, to urge and to plead with every household at both parishes, to please examine your stewardship. We are in need at both parishes. We have monthly expenses to meet, and we are just getting by. Please put this to prayer and act accordingly. God will not be outdone in generosity; and God loves a cheerful giver.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Bob Smith

RICE BOWL —Timor-Leste has the highest rate of child malnutrition in Asia, and many children suffer from stunting, which makes a big impact on a child’s growth and future. Home gardens and fishponds are helping families provide better nutrition for their children. What do you eat to stay healthy? What can you do to ensure children have enough food to thrive? *Visit crsricebowl.org*

Rice bowls may be returned at anytime at both parishes

Father Robert Smith Phone: 701-850-9708

e-mail robert.smith@fargodiocese.org

Rectory & Parish Office 846 5th St SE

Mayville, ND 58257

Ph: 701-788-3234

E-mail: catholic@gra.midco.net Website: olp-stagnes.org

Office hours Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri 9am to 1pm

St. Agnes Stewardship 3/7

Adult \$765.00

Plate \$58.00

Flowers \$20.00

Total \$843.00

If anyone has something to share that should be included in the bulletin, please contact Lois, 874-2144, 701-238-4380, lois_ewertz@hotmail.com

Dear Padre,

My friend’s parish is having a St. Joseph’s Day Altar. What is that?

According to tradition, the altar to St. Joseph originated in the Middle Ages by Sicilians who invoked their patron saint during an extended drought and famine. When rain finally brought relief, the people expressed their gratitude in two ways: by displaying a table with the foods they harvested and by distributing their plenitude to those most in need.

Over time, the custom of an altar around the March 19 feast day of St. Joseph gained popularity and is now embraced by the faithful of any nationality wishing to share their good fortune with those who have less. The meatless feast usually includes baked items, beans, nuts, fruits, and seafood presented in ways that symbolize elements of the faith. Prayerful rituals and children portraying the Holy Family add to the celebration and heritage.

Whether the altar is modest or elaborate, at home or in church, it’s a labor of love meant to strengthen the bonds of family and friends in its preparation and to strengthen one’s faith and charity in its execution.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM Pope Francis



Saint Joseph appears as a strong and courageous man, a working man, yet in his heart we see great tenderness, which is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern, for compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love. We must not be afraid of goodness, of tenderness!

SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH, MARCH 19, 2013

Calendar

Monday

MARCH 15

Lenten Weekday

Is 65:17–21

Jn 4:43–54

Tuesday

MARCH 16

Lenten Weekday

Ez 47:1–9, 12

Jn 5:1–16

Wednesday

MARCH 17

Lenten Weekday

Is 49:8–15

Jn 5:17–30

Thursday

MARCH 18

Lenten Weekday

Ex 32:7–14

Jn 5:31–47

Friday

MARCH 19

St. Joseph,

Spouse of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4–5a,

12–14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22

Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a

or Lk 2:41–51a

Saturday

MARCH 20

Lenten Weekday

Jer 11:18–20

Jn 7:40–53

Sunday

MARCH 21

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31–34

Heb 5:7–9

Jn 12:20–33