From the Desk of the Pastor....

Today we begin the Ordinary Time of the Liturgical Calendar of the Church. With the exception of today’s Gospel, we will turn to St. Luke and stay with the Gospel until Ash Wednesday. The wedding feast at Cana is unique to John’s Gospel. It is the first sign Jesus performed and reveals the reality of God in Jesus. The setting is a wedding party to which Jesus, his mother, and his disciples have all been invited. A potentially serious issue develops when the wine gives out. Jesus’ mother brings this potential disaster to his attention.

As St. John introduces each of the seven signs, the readers are given to see and understand them on two levels; the person in conversation with Jesus understands it on a natural level, while Jesus is on a spiritual level.

Some examples of signs in John’s Gospel:

a) When Jesus talks to Nicodemus about being reborn, Nicodemus is thinking about coming from a mother’s womb again. However, Jesus is talking about spiritual rebirth.

b) When Jesus tells the woman at the well that he will give her water, she says, “You do not have a bucket and the well is deep.” His water is life-giving on a different plane altogether.

c) With the miracle of the loaves and fish, the disciples see in Jesus the ability to feed the hungry to satisfy their stomachs. Jesus wants to satisfy the human hungry heart with eternal life, himself being the Bread of Life.

In this first sign, Jesus’ mother is on one plane. She is sensitive to the embarrassment of the bride and groom who have run out of wine. Jesus uses the opportunities to replenish wine for the party, (a natural need) and reveal more of who he is.

Each of the six stone jars of water, held 20 to 30 gallons of water. They were never intended to hold drinking water. The water was used for ceremonial washing as prescribed by Jewish law to make the faithful ritually clean.

In changing this ritual water into fine wine, and lots of it, Jesus manifests as the new wine of salvation that believers will be cleansed through him. The enormous amount of water made wine echoes the prophecies of abundance of God’s blessings.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

Fixing God’s House

This Campaign Fund money is classified as “Restricted Income” to be used only to pay for the projects mentioned in the “Fixing God’s House” brochure.

If you have not yet made your pledge and wish to do so, you may send in your donations, designating in the memo of your check as “Fixing God’s House”. There are several options available for you to give to this campaign:

- you can drop your check at the Parish Office, or mail it
- you may give "On-Line"
- you may also put in the Sunday collection in an envelope, marked as “Fixing God’s House”

Thank you for continuing the legacy of St. John the Evangelist.

2018 CONTRIBUTIONS: Individual contribution acknowledgment letters for the year 2018 will be issued by the Parish Office upon request only. You must be a registered parishioner using Parish envelopes in order to receive this letter. The Parish envelope number identifies your contribution records. Please call the Parish office (415-334-4646) a week ahead before dropping by to collect this letter if you want it mailed to you. Thank you.

Walk for Life 2019

The 15th annual Walk for Life West Coast Rally will be held on Saturday, January 26th, beginning with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 9:30 am at the Cathedral of St. Many of the Assumption presided by the Most Reverend Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone. The Rally starts at 12:30pm at Civic Center Plaza walking down Market Street and will end at the Ferry Building. There is a Plenary Indulgence offered to those who participate in the Walk for Life 2019. Please read the article on the bulletin board. Everyone is invited to come. See you there!

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2019

Thank you for your steadfast support to the Parish and efforts you put in to help pay our Parish assessment of AAA 2018.

We have been informed that our Parish assessment for AAA 2019 is $40,216.31. A decrease of $181.00 from last year’s assessment. Parishioners who are registered at St. John the Evangelist will be receiving pledge forms within the next couple of weeks. Our Finance Council urges us to renew our efforts to help make this year’s assessment.

- Fr. Agnel & The Finance Council -