

News of the Diocese of Baker

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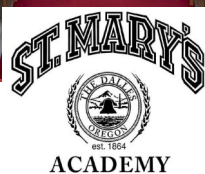
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK in the Diocese of Baker

After a Mass with the parishioners of St. Peter Church to start National Catholic Schools Week, **St. Mary Academy** of The Dalles extended the Catholic Schools Week over two weeks. During this time, students enjoyed Hawaiian, sports themed and comfy-cozy dress-up days. All grades also spent one afternoon crafting, playing bingo and dancing together.

Our service project has become an annual tradition. It began in 2014, when St. Mary's celebrated its 150th birthday. Each year the students have assembled "Birthday Bags" containing cake mix, frosting, candles, and fancy plates and napkins. The food bank at our local St. Vincent de Paul Society store distributes the bags to help families give their child a birthday celebration. Classroom penny jars, parishioner support and our new "Pay a dollar, wear your hat all day" fundraiser helped this project grow from 25 birthday bags in 2014 to about 150 this year.

All students, from three year-old preschoolers to 8th graders, joined Father Levine and the faculty for a school photo in the church, to help us remember our joyful celebration of National Catholic Schools Week 2018.

In addition, St. Mary's Academy holds our largest fundraisers of the year around NCSW. Our 2018 Family Carnival & Silent Auction is a family event that was held on Friday, January 26. The Family carnival, attended by



more than 450 people of all ages from our school and The Dalles community, precedes our Super Auction.

On February 3rd, St. Mary's held our 43rd Annual 2018 Super Auction. This event includes both live and silent auctions, as well as raffles, dinner, and opportunities to purchase items for the classrooms. In addition to our normal line-up, our 2018 event featured the school's first attempt at a special fundraising initiative called "Fund A Need." This initiative provides us an opportunity to address specific needs of the school beyond the day-to-day expenses.

The 2018 "Fund A Need" focused on St. Mary's Academy's building, specifically the roof, to address continual leaks. Roofing contractors inspected the roof and identified the need to replace all the fascia boards and make additional repairs at adjoining sections. Estimates for the repairs came in at \$12,000.

At the conclusion of the Live Auction, our Auctioneer kicked off "Fund A Need." Our auctioneer announced that two donors had stepped forward and offered to match all donations for the roof up to \$6,000. In a matter of minutes, the bidder cards began to rise and the school raised \$15,550 from 25 donors - more than enough for the roof repair! The blessings we receive from our parents, grandparents, parishioners, friends, and community are truly remarkable. — Wendy Palmer, Development Director

SEARCHING FOR MEANING

"BUT THOSE THINGS I USED TO CONSIDER GAIN I HAVE NOW REAPPRAISED AS LOSS IN THE LIGHT OF THE SURPASSING KNOWLEDGE OF MY LORD JESUS CHRIST."
PHILIPPIANS 3:7

St. Paul had a unique transformation from sinner to saint. Throughout history there have been many similar transformations. However, in the life of many ordinary people there are transformations of a less significant kind. These often happen with only minimal outward or external evidence. Yet such transformations bring about a radical change in the lives of those people. Such people have found a new meaning for their lives. They are moved by a new passion. There is a new satisfaction in their lives. There is an inner joy and peace in their hearts.

SEARCHING FOR MEANING is a story of some people finding that "new light" in their lives. You are invited to join us in Ione and Heppner for this very special production written and directed by Father Gerry Condon.



PERFORMANCES ARE
SUNDAY
MARCH 11
3:00 PM
IONE COMMUNITY
CHARTER SCHOOL
&
THURSDAY
MARCH 15
7:00 PM
ST. PATRICK PARISH
HALL IN HEPPNER



Thoughts Along the Way

Bishop Liam Cary

Give the Devil His Due

This year the Sunday Gospel readings come from St. Mark. His short and fast-moving tale takes us right into Jesus' public life. Half-way into the first chapter we learn why it will not be an easy life: "The Spirit immediately drove Him out into the wilderness . . . [to be] tempted by the Devil." No sooner has he overcome satanic opposition in the desert than Jesus meets it again back in the Capernaum synagogue: "[I]mmediately . . . a man with an unclean spirit . . . cried out, . . . 'Have you come to destroy us?'" The answer to this demonic question, as St. Mark's Gospel takes pains to make clear, is "Yes!" And the people of Capernaum were quick to sense it: "They brought to Him all who were . . . possessed with demons" for Him to cast them out. When Jesus effortlessly did so, they marveled: "With authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."

The demons were unable to resist Jesus' word of command. He forbade them to speak, so they came shaking and shouting out of their victims and went away. But not for long. Too much was at stake in the struggle between the Prince of Darkness and the Light of the World. For unless he could extinguish the ingathering brightness of "the Holy One of God," Satan's shadowy kingdom could not stand. So the Prince of Demons marshaled the full force of disobedience, and the battle was joined with the Beloved Son in Whom the Father was "well pleased." As His brothers and sisters, as human beings, St. Mark alerts us, you and I, our children and grandchildren, our nieces and nephews, are inescapably caught up in that spiritual warfare. It will not cease until the end of the world.

Nowhere is that warfare more evident today than in the unprecedented persecution Christians throughout the world are undergoing. The 20th and 21st centuries have seen more Christians put to death for their faith than did all the preceding centuries of Christianity combined. Contemporary persecution ranges from unspeakable cruelty in the Middle East to ominously restrictive encroachments on religious liberty in the West. In its many varieties St. Mark teaches us to detect the rapacious hunger of the Devil who goes about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.

That is why I have asked that we pray the Prayer to St. Michael at the end of every Mass "for our fellow Christians in other lands persecuted for the faith we share and for religious liberty in our land." It is a prayer for world peace, for religious persecution has been one of the great peace-breakers in history. It is a prayer for social justice, for there is no greater injustice than for dominant

groups to force the conscience with violence. Last but not least it is a prayer of profound hope in the power of the Savior portrayed in the Gospel of Mark.

Pensamientos Del Camino

Obispo Liam Cary

Dale a Satanás su Deuda

Este año las lecturas del Evangelio vienen de San Marcos. Sus historias cortas y rápidas nos llevan directamente a la vida pública de Jesús. Hacia la mitad del primer capítulo conocemos el por qué no será una vida fácil: "En seguida el Espíritu lo empujó al desierto . . . y fue tentado por Satanás". Apenas que había superado la oposición satánica en el desierto, Jesús la encontró nuevamente en la sinagoga de Cafarnaún: "Inmediatamente . . . un hombre con un espíritu malo . . . gritó . . . '¿Has venido a destruirnos?'" La respuesta a esta pregunta demoníaca, como San Marcos se esfuerza por dejar en claro, es "¡Sí!" Y la gente de Cafarnaún fue rápida para sentirlo: "Empezaron a traer a Jesús todos los enfermos y personas poseídas por espíritus malos" para que Él los echara fuera. Cuando Jesús lo hizo sin esfuerzo, ellos se maravillaron: "¿Con qué autoridad! Miren cómo da órdenes a los espíritus malos ¡y le obedecen!"

Los demonios no pudieron resistir la palabra de mando de Jesús. Él les prohibió hablar, por lo que salieron temblando y gritando de sus víctimas y se fueron. Pero no por mucho tiempo. Demasiado estaba en juego en la lucha entre el Príncipe de la Oscuridad y la Luz del Mundo. Porque al menos que pudiera extinguir el brillo creciente del "Santo de Dios", el sombrío reino de Satanás no podría mantenerse. Por lo que el Príncipe de los Demonios reunió toda la fuerza de la desobediencia, y la batalla se unió con el Hijo Amado en Quien el Padre estaba "muy contento". Como Sus hermanos y hermanas, como seres humanos, San Marcos nos advierte, tú y yo, nuestros hijos y nietos, nuestras sobrinas y sobrinos, están irremediablemente atrapados en esa guerra espiritual. No cesará hasta el fin del mundo.

En ninguna parte hay una Guerra más evidente hoy que en la persecución sin precedentes que sufren los Cristianos de todo el mundo. Los siglos 20 y 21 han visto morir a más Cristianos por su fe que todos los siglos anteriores de Cristianismo combinados. La persecución contemporánea abarca desde indescriptible crueldad en el Medio Oriente hasta invasiones ominosamente restrictivas de la libertad religiosa en Occidente. En sus muchas variedades, San Marcos nos enseña a detectar el hambre ávida del Diablo que anda como un león rugiente buscando a quién devorar.

Es por eso que he pedido que rezamos la Oración a

San Miguel al final de cada Misa “por nuestros hermanos Cristianos en otras tierras perseguidos por la fe que compartimos y por la libertad religiosa en nuestra tierra.” Es una oración por la paz mundial, ya que la persecución religiosa ha sido uno de los grandes quebradores de paz durante la historia. Es una oración por la justicia social, porque no hay mayor injusticia que los grupos dominantes fuerzen la conciencia con violencia. Por último, pero no menos importante, es una oración de profunda esperanza en el poder del Salvador retratado en el Evangelio de Marcos.



UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS & INITIATIVES

Praying that God's grace, mercy, and love be upon you and your communities. In the upcoming months, there are several events and initiatives happening and this is an effort not only to communicate them, but to also humbly seek your help and prayers in the process. Here are the initiatives:

1- Northern Deanery Youth and Young Adult Event

The first event is a Northern Deanery Youth and Young Adult event on June 9th in Pendleton. The event will be open to the diocese, but we are hoping that the majority of young people assisting will be from the Northern Deanery. Bishop Cary, Fr. Rick Fischer, Hope Burke and I met last week and we all agreed that this initiative would be a blessing not only for the deanery, but the diocese as a whole. Eventually, we will have other youth and young adult events throughout the diocese and these will lead to having our own RCYC (Rural Catholic Youth Conference)

2- Online Bible Classes

This initiative was actually an idea of the youth group of Our Lady of Angels in Hermiston. They started a bible study which was successful and after hearing of this I thought it would be a blessing if we could start an Online Bible Study. As of now, it is scheduled for Thursdays 7-8 PM. After much prayer and discernment, I decided to open the class to the youth leaders of the deanery. The first topic will be the *Catholic Epistles*. We will be using “Zoom” as a platform because the application will allow up to 100 users simultaneously. Zoom gives me the ability see each person who logs on and in that way serves as an accountability tool as well. If you would like your youth leaders to participate, please let me know as soon as possible. I have decided that our start date will be March 1st. This will allow for planning, preparing and any questions you might have.

3- World Youth Day

Several years ago, I was invited as a keynote speaker in Puerto Rico for their World Youth Day. The Archdiocese of San Juan understood that because of the financial

hardship many of their youth would be unable to attend World Youth Day, so they decided to have their own WYD event in Puerto Rico. The event consisted of young people from all over the Island meeting at a Marian Shrine that had enough space for a camp site. They all lived the experience of sleeping under the stars as they waited for The Holy Father's entrance and homily on the big screen. Extra large screens were installed at the site where the youth could see and listen to The Holy Father's message.

It is our hope that we can do the same for the young people of our diocese next year.

4- Leadership Lay Formation

Just last weekend I was in The Dalles where I met with Latino Leaders from both The Dalles and Hood River. I have already connected with leadership in Hermiston and Redmond, but my goal is to work with the deaneries instead of individual parishes. This would be the most effective way to proceed.

5- Evangelization, Marriage and Family and Catechetical Conference Please save the date for this coming June 15–17. More information coming soon!

6- Summer Camps, Youth Retreats and Quo Vadis

Dates coming soon.

May Our Lord and Our Lady continue guiding us as we grow in love, knowledge, and holiness.

David Bisoño

Director of Evangelization and Adult Faith Formation

BISHOP CARY'S SCHEDULE

Feb 28	6:30-8:00 PM, Confirmation Class, Bend
Mar 1	6:30-8:30 PM, Returning Catholics, Bend
Mar 4	4:00 PM, Seminary Benefit Dinner, Eugene
Mar 6	6:30 PM Penance Service, Prineville
Mar 9-10	Idaho Catholic Youth Conference (ICYC), Boise, Idaho
Mar 11-14	Administrative Committee Meeting, Washington, DC

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS IN BEND

The Extraordinary Form Mass is offered every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM at St. Francis of Assisi Historic Church. **In March, there will be Latin Masses on the 11th and 25th.**

Father Andrew Szymakowski will hear confessions after Mass upon request.

If you would like to be added to a Mass schedule notification email list, please send your request to johncdiscoll1068@gmail.com and if you are interested in being an Altar Server or singing in the schola, please contact Stephanie Swee at swee0574@gmail.com.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK in the Diocese of Baker continued



St. Thomas Academy in Redmond celebrated National Catholic Schools Week by holding several important events that encompassed this year's theme, *Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.* We started the week out with a Community Helper Fair where several members of our community came to teach the students about how they help others. We had department of forestry, police officers, fire fighters, OSU extension, and a librarian. Tuesday was the highlight of the week with a visit by our Bishop! He was able to join us for our 2nd annual Religion Bee where we had a representative from each



grade, Preschool through 5th. Bishop Cary was able to join us for an all school lunch as we sat with our "Faith Families". Wednesday we celebrated our weekly school Mass, Thursday was our 1st annual Spelling Bee, and we finished off the week with Pajama Day and Movie Night on Friday! Each day students brought in items to donate to St. Vincent DePaul and our 4th/5th grade class delivered and helped stock the shelves. In Catholic Schools we are all learners, servants, and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work and succeed.

— Lisa Velasquez, Administrative Assistant



St. Peter School in Ontario really gets into Catholic Schools Week! On Monday, we wore our pajamas and donated 500 cans of food to the food bank. Tuesday, we wore our favorite sports team and brought in more than 50 new or gently used coats for needy students. Wednesday, we wore hats, held a luncheon for our volunteers, made placemats and sang to our guests.



Thursday we wore camouflage and donated items to the Children's Relief Nursery. On Friday, we wore crazy socks with our Mass uniforms, gathered more cans of food and sang at the hospital. We began the week on Sunday, at our church and ended at Nyssa's St. Bridget's church, giving testimony of how blessed we are to be part of St. Peter School. —Patti Curran, Administrative Assistant

St. Francis of Assisi School in Bend celebrated National Catholic Schools Week by supporting The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society with a daily fundraiser. Friday evening they held a *Family Fun Night* in the Community Center and Sunday the students were Greeters at the 7:30 a.m. Children's Mass.

Each day throughout the week, the school did fun apparel themes but everyone had a daily mission as well. Monday was *Pajama Penny Day* where they wore comfy, cozy clothes and brought in pennies. Tuesday was *Neon Nickels Day* where they were allowed to accessorize their school uniform with neon accessories, including socks, and brought nickels. That day each grade level participated in *Called to Protect Curriculum*s. Wednesday they were visited by Bishop Cary and he celebrated their weekly morning Mass for them. It was also *Crazy Quarters Day* and they wore crazy hats and/or socks with their uniform



and... they brought quarters. Thursday was *Dazzling Dimes Day* where they wore something shiny or something that made them different and unique and—you guessed it—they brought their dimes. Thursday everyone had their throats blessed in honor of St. Blaise Feast Day and that evening they exhibited their Science Fair projects in the Community Center. Friday was *Team Up for Leukemia Day* and they wore their favorite team's jersey or colors and the final collection called for coins and/or dollars. That morning the children's parents enjoyed coffee and pastries at *Pastries with Parents*. The week concluded with a Religion Bee in the Community Center with the 5th Grade Team as winners.

Overall, St. Francis School collected and donated \$800 to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and they did it with great joy and a lot of fun!