

St. Joseph Catholic Church **POB 1010** Nome, AK 99762-1010 Pastor: Rev. Tom Kuffel

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Parish: 907-443-5527; Cell 907-434-6117 Fifth Sunday of Easter 5.14.2017

St. Joseph						
5.14.2017						
335.75						

1st PROMISE OF **OUR LADY OF FATIMA**

Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the Rosary, shall receive signal Graces.





Stewardship

Stewardship is partnership. We are partners with the Creator Who made heaven and earth.

Today the focus of stewardship is protecting creation. We are partners with creation and how we use created things reveals our stewardship.

Today, we see the ecological disasters that destroy creation. We read of businesses and governments abusing creation for the sole purpose of gain and greed. However, we must remember that I too am responsible $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1$ for how I treat the things I own.

- How do you treat your home?
- How do you treat your vehicles?
- How do you treat your trash and garbage?
- How do you treat your village?

One of the saddest things is to see vibrant villages and towns deteriorate.

Worse than allowing a house, vehicle, or neighborhood to deteriorate is to let your body, mind, and soul deteriorate.

Stewardship recognizes the beauty, dignity, and nobility not only of our and all the wonderful advancements, but more importantly to see the divine beauty in ourselves.

To change anything demands we see the value of everything.

We are created in the image and likeness of God; our dignity comes from Jesus who restores our broken selves back into our original dignity.

That is why so long ago, St. Leo the Great asked, Oh Christians do you recognize your dignity?

Today we have lost our dignity. We pollute our environment, homes, and even self. To stop this pollution Jesus comes and restores that dignity by showing us what we are: we are not disposable; we are adorable children in God's eyes.

> **Respect your dignity** Respect your things.

Why be Catholic? All Generations will call me Blessed! **Happy Mother's Day**

We honor Mary for God asked her if she would become the Mother of Jesus. Jesus as we believe is both God and Human. That He became one like us so that we could become one with Him, as Mary did.

Mary uniquely became one with Jesus in that she gave not only her body to Jesus, that is what a mother does, she also gave her unconditional love, another thing that mother's do. And at the foot of the Cross, she gave her life to Jesus as He gave his life to us.

At the foot of the Cross, Jesus entrusted John to Mary: Behold your Mother; and entrusted Mary to John, Behold your son. This exchange is more powerful than we can imagine, in that Mary becomes the new Eve. She is the new Mother of all the living.

Jesus entrusted us to Mary so that we become like her, saying Yes to God's will even when it is difficult and we are to entrust ourselves to Mary for she brings us to and through our struggles by pointing to her Son on the Cross; the empty tomb 3 days later.

Mary is unique in all of history in that she became the Mother of Jesus and gave all of herself to Jesus. That is why she is called blessed by all generations as Scripture tells us to do: "All generations will call me blessed" (Lk 1:48).

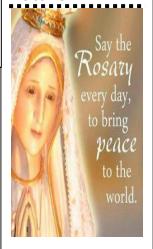
Mary's Yes to God's will allowed the Holy Spirit to overshadow her; and ultimately because what Jesus did, the Holy Spirit overshadows us, as we read in the Acts of the Apostles. "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim" (Acts 2:4).

Today we honor Mother's; Today we Honor Mary our Spiritual Mother who teaches us to say yes to the Holy Spirit so we are filled with Divine Love.

Announcements

Fr. Tom will be in FBKS May 14 – 19. Fr. Tom will be in Kotz May19–May 24. ACYC June 5- 9. Fr. Tom will be in Anchorage

Ben Doudna seminarian from Fairbanks will arrive June 12 for the Please summer. welcome him.



The Rosary is a Universal Prayer that is rooted in Scripture.

In fact the Rosary is a meditation Scripture so people, simple to learned, can easily recall the great teachings and stories of Jesus.

The Mysteries of the Rosary are reflections on the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

The Rosary today is a powerful way to pray; to enter into the life of Jesus while He taught and preached, but also an inspiration to help us when we face our own death for the Rosary leads us to the resurrection.



Weekly Schedule:							
Date	Mass Time	Place	Feast Day	Lector/Minister	Intention	Activity	
Mon May 15	No Mass	Fbks	St. Isidor		Lisa Svobada+		
Tue May 16	No Mass	Fbks			Dale Rezac		
Wed May 17	No Mass	Fbks			Dale Rezac		
Thu May 18	No Mass	Fbks	St. John I		Dale Rezac		
Fri May 19	No Mass	Kotz			John Meuller +		
Sat May 20	6:00	Kotz		S. Lynch	Leif Family		
Sun May 21	11:00	Kotz		L. Mayac	St. Francis	Confirmation	

Oh My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy.

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.

100 years ago today, May 13, 1917, three young children tending sheep, saw a beautiful woman appear to them. Her message was simple: Be Not Afraid! St. John Paul II spoke those same words in 1978 when elected Pope. Jesus used those same words so often to his disciples for they were afraid. Just as the three children, Jacinta, Lucia, and Francisco, were terribly afraid; so too we are afraid today: What does the future hold for us?

Evil is rampant and we fear evil for we see how evil comes to destroy our human dignity. It enslaves us under despots who want control. So too, we see how Mary's Message to the Children of Fatima gives hope despite the terrible terrors we see in our world.

Our Lady of Fatima prophesized that prayer was the answer to the evil of Atheistic Communism that would start in Russia and spread throughout the world. It was not communism that was so terrible, but that atheists would become tyrannical dictators who would destroy and desecrate people's freedom to believe in God.

100 years later as we reflect on world history, we see the horrors that came from this revolution to remove God from society, families, and persons. Atheism creates a void in which evil incubates and then unleashes mayhem. This anarchy rooted in Karl Marx and led by Vladimir Lenin created debauchery, iniquity, and impiety from which our world still suffers the raw wounds and scars inflicted.

Nazism reacted to this atheism in which hatred bred a holocaust. Nazism was merely the first of many genocides. We look at Mao Tse-tung of China, Pol Pot of Vietnam, Augusto Pinochet of Chile, Josip Tito of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rwanda, and of course the terrorism that continues to plague our world. Why?

Scripture reveals the answer. When we systematically remove God from society, we change the balance of power. Human dignity is no longer a fundamental right given to us by God, as so well declared by the Constitution of the United States: All men are created equal – by God! Individuals, not God, determine who is equal, who is worthy, who has a right to life or who should die.

Adolf Hitler is most famous for this selective breeding. Yet, his philosophy is rooted in atheism. Man – NOT GOD – determines who lives or dies. Today, we reap the beliefs of this philosophy in power politics. Whether left or right, politicians determine the values and standards of civil society – NOT GOD, NOT Truth! This philosophy has been handed down to individuals and organizations who think they have the fundamental right to determine who lives or dies. That is why terrorism, murder, abortion, and euthanasia rage.

That is why, 100 years later, we need to look back at message of Fatima. She prophesized what would happen if men and women would not pray; if Christians would stop believing in God. Atheistic Communism would spread its errors throughout the world. People would suffer, die, and endure horrible pains; human suffering would reflect Hell itself.

Her prophesies came true and are still true today. We see visions of hell here on earth. We see people starving, mutilated, disfigured, abused, degraded, decapitated, and even crucified.

Her prophesy to the children in 1917 of a man in white who would be shot came true in 1981 when a man in white was shot by Mehmet Ali Agca in the Piazza of St. Peter's. The attempted assassination of St. John Paul was miraculously foiled by the hand of our Lady of Fatima as St. John Paul would comment, "It was a mother's hand that guided the bullet's path."

With the election of St. John Paul, the power of atheism communism fell, symbolically when the Berlin Wall came down in 1989. The brutality of Nazi Germany was forgiven when the Pope who was so close to the Jews, came and kissed German ground in 1980. He prayed for the world. He prayed for mercy. He showed mercy and forgave, even his assassin. He publically called for forgiveness in 2000 for all sins: "As we ask forgiveness for our sins, we also forgive the sins committed by others against us!" He restored dignity to the human person as he went and preached this message to all the countries of the world!

Forgiveness is the means to restore human dignity. Human dignity allows for human failure as we have free will, but human dignity demands that each person is accepted as a person who has inalienable rights that come not from a person's political agenda, but from the very fact that the human person is fearfully and wonderfully made.

We are made for the divine not for the powerful who think they can remove the human spirit of freedom and the fundamental right to worship a divine God of love and forgiveness. Forgiveness the most powerful act of love restores human dignity for men and women were created to love – not hate. Created to forgiven – not judge. Men and women are created in the image and likeness of God: Love restores for love embraces truth, justice, peace, and most importantly, each person's human dignity.





