

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 7, 2010



Today in each of the three readings, we will hear about God's call to three different people. Each one feels unworthy. Each one resists God's call.

And yet, when they offer their inadequate talents to the task, God supplies the rest, and now we know them as three great and holy people: the Prophet Isaiah, Saint Paul and Saint Peter.

We are each called by God, sometimes to what may seem like impossible work. But when we listen with the intention of saying "Yes" and doing what we can, God provides what we need.

Lord Jesus, you call everyone to follow you, to be your disciples and to be holy. Let us pray for ears and hearts that are open to God's call.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isa 6:1-2a, 3-8 The call of Isaiah the Prophet

1 Cor 15:1-11 The call of Paul the apostle

Luke 5:1-11 The call of Peter and the other disciples

The Stewardship of St. Paul

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."

St. Paul ! Corinthians 11:1

St. Paul is the ultimate Steward of the gifts he received from God.

Paul was an accomplished legal scholar, a skilled orator, and a passionate zealot .



He used his skills to hunt down and persecute Christians until the risen Christ stopped him to ask, "Why are you persecuting me?"

Paul had a complete conversion and then used his gifts to build the body of Christ, welcome Gentiles into the Church and write nearly half of the New Testament!

We can be imitators of St. Paul by using our gifts from God and living out our lives as Christian Stewards.

PARISH RETREAT

Sponsored by:
Social Justice Commission

Save the date!

**"Living the Risen
Body of Christ"**



Saturday, May 15 from 9:00 - 3 PM.

Please join us for a day of prayer, reflection, and inspiration on living the Resurrection in today's world!

PARISH GIVING

Monthly Collection - 665 Households

Budget for January, 2010 ... \$50,467

Total for January 2010 \$54,778

\$5 for the Future

January, 2010 collection: \$391

W O R S H I P



St. Therese
Music Department
Presents:

Joseph Rojo
Jacob Mahoney
Lori Woodbury

“For Love or Money”

February 13th @ 7:30 PM

Free will offering to
benefit the St. Therese
Music Department

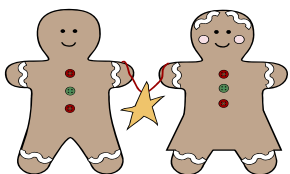


Valentine’s Day Treats at the Annual St. Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Bake Sale!

***Homemade Cakes, Cookies,
Cobblers, Pies, Rolls, and Bread!***

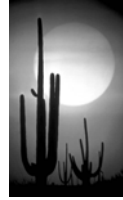
The bake sale will take place at St. Therese
in the Social Hall on Sunday, **February
14, 2010**, after the 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM
and 5:00 PM Masses.

The proceeds from this event allow the
Ladies Auxiliary to continue to support
charitable work in the community.



**Hope to see
you there!**

Lenten Faith Sharing Groups



Look for sign-up sheets in the So-
cial Hall for the faith sharing groups.
They will be available through the
weekend of February 13/14, 2010.

Start Lent centering your whole body in Jesus’
Passion through a guided meditation on the Sta-
tions of the Cross – in yoga. Come to the Social
Hall at 2:30 PM on Saturday, February 20th, to be
part of an experience that touches your eyes, ears
and body as you walk the Way
of the Cross with Jesus. No
previous yoga experience is
required, and two certified in-
structors will help to facilitate
your movements.



The meditation, created by pa-
rishioner Anne Kelley, will include music sung and
played by familiar faces as well as a set of images
(or mandala) to meditate upon. Mats will be avail-
able for 30 people, and the meditation will last just
under an hour.

Please come and join in this new and unique ex-
perience as we begin our 40 days of prayer to-
gether.

Please contact annemu@microsoft.com if you are
interested in attending. Anne will be available
after the Masses on February 13 and 14 to
answer any questions you may have .

The soul is kissed by God in its innermost regions.
With interior yearning, grace and blessing are
bestowed.

It is a yearning to take on God’s gentle yoke, it is a
yearning to give one’s self to God’s way.

Amen.

Hildegard of Bingen-Twelfth century

FAITH FORMATION

From: Reverend Paul Magnano

Subject: Haiti message in NCR from Tom Hagan of Hands Together

As you know, Tom Hagan made several presentations in the Skagit area when I was pastor.

The Christmas figures at St. Therese are also from Haiti. Tom spoke there, too.

Editor's note: Fr. Tom Hagan, 68, a member of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, is founder of a nonprofit organization, "Hands Together," which began its work in 1985 when Hagan, then a chaplain at colleges in southeastern Pennsylvania, started taking students on visits to Haiti. Hagan moved to Port-au-Prince in 1997. Tom Roberts, NCR's editor at large, contacted Hagan by e-mail and asked him about his experience during the quake.

Dear Tom:

Sorry my first response did not get through! My setup here is a laptop on the ground next to a very loud electric gas generator and with what seems to be a thousand young all wanting to use the computer. I will try again. This past week has been terrifying. I have lived through all the violence in Cité Soleil over the past years: being shot at and having guns held to my head, seeing people close to me down here shot, but none can compare to the horror of the earthquake. Doug Campbell, who has been with me for over 20 years and serves as the executive director of Hands Together, had just arrived. We were to meet with the archbishop the next morning about the situation in Cité Soleil. Doug and I were sitting down talking when the quake began. I tried to get under a table that was only a few feet away but the floor was moving in the opposite direction. I felt totally disoriented and fortunately one of the young Haitians ran back into the house and grabbed me and Doug. There was almost total darkness and I could hear screaming but also singing, which seemed weird to me, but I was told that the people were praying. I looked up at the rubble that was our house for volunteers, seminarians and street kids. I was bleeding from the head and there was a terrific pain in my back.

Doug ran back into the rubble to try and begin to pull people out, but then we heard cries that the gas was leaking and that there would be an explosion. One of the street kids, Makenson, who was shot and is now blind and whom I found two years ago literally in the street, was crying out to me beneath all the rocks and debris but we could not get to him. [Makenson was eventually rescued.] It was then that two ex-gang members from Cité Soleil ran up to me and carried me to Mother Teresa's nuns. When I entered their compound they were already treating the wounded and they bandaged me up and I hobbled back to my place.

Throughout the night we held vigil, and slowly we were able to get everyone out except 2 of the 21 seminarians who were living with me in the house. I remember vividly that night seeing people who were burned badly by the electric wires that had fallen everywhere. The next night we were all huddled outside when we would experience a very large aftershock. It was very frightening. On the same night at about midnight we began to hear screaming and people were screaming that there was a tidal wave coming. We all started running, and for the next hour I and thousands of people were moving to higher ground. We did not know what to believe. I am ashamed to say that I am still frightened, but now I am also experiencing a feeling of being overwhelmed. When I go through Cité Soleil now I see the eight schools that we built (schools that were totally free and the only free schools like that in the country with more than 9,000 kids). I walk past what was once our clinic that took care of 20,000 - again the only totally free clinic in the area. I see what once were the houses that we built for 150 people and the elderly projects for over 800. I look at the large kitchen area where people prepared hot meals each day for over 10,000 - and all of it is gone.

There is also the problem of the destroyed prison, from which over 4,500 men were freed. They all escaped, and there is a side of me that is happy that they did. Many of them should never have been there. I would visit the prison every week and there were as many as 600 in one holding cell and many of them had never even been in front of a judge. Unfortunately, some are psychopaths, and all of them are now back in Cité Soleil. I just came from offering four Masses. Each time I would finish, another crowd would come up and ask for Mass. This is a real comfort to me and more than ever I realize that I, we, can't survive if we do not simply put everything into God's hands. I've got to work hard to practice this. Tom, you ask about the Church. Well, the people here lost a very holy man [Archbishop Joseph Serge Miot] and a very good bishop, especially one who was supportive of me in Cité Soleil. He was a good friend, and I will miss him greatly.

But the Church will survive. It is during a time like this that I find myself very proud of my Church. Everywhere you go, you will see the Church reaching out now and helping the people. The Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa's nuns) are just amazing. The people here have a great faith. When I go to Cité Soleil now, as I do every day, I see few tears. The people have an amazing resiliency. Maybe it is because they have few material possessions and apparently their happiness does not depend upon possessions. The sight of a sunset means more to them than their possessions. What makes me most proud of my Church is that the message we give the people is that they have enormous worth in the eyes of God and that they are infinitely loved and that this terrible disaster is in no way a punishment from God. I recently said this in a sermon and the people all stood up and began clapping and cheering. I had to ask ...

Continued on page 4.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

PASTORAL CARE

Haiti Message: continued from page 3.

... the altar server why they were clapping (I thought that I had said something wrong because my Creole is not good) and he said, "Father, no one ever tells them that they have worth." The Catholic Church will survive, and I am sure of it. But the longer I am here, the less I know. I really could not speak with much authority about what will happen with the government or even what would be the best way to help the people. I also struggle a great deal even being here. I feel strongly that we can do a great deal of harm with the best intentions when we begin to be the benefactor.

Even with all this aid coming in, we must go slowly, and every step of the way we must include the Haitians in the decision-making.

During these very difficult days, I find myself really loving these people. These are the same people who endured the slave ships, a horrible system of slavery, and who would be the ones who would eventually defeat Napoleon. They would continue to suffer greatly but they have a strength that is remarkable. I am humbled by them and privileged to be with them.



Pray for me. Take care! Tom Hagan, OSFS

(The third of a nine-part series on Pastoral Care at St. Therese Church)

The Pastoral Care Commission's Mission:

The Mission of the Pastoral Care Commission is to provide for the spiritual needs of the parish in times of crisis as well as in everyday life, by making available: Communion to the sick and homebound; spiritual companionship in times of need; and a variety of prayer request options through the Intercessory Prayer Chain and The Book of Prayers.

As the Body of Christ, we are called to pray for its members:

Please pray for the health of:

Alison Hendricks family, James Adams, Patrick Burr, Judy Harding, Hannah Jungers, Nate Albro, Roxanne Harrison's family, Tiffany Megargee's father, Steve Berg, Josie Vicencio's son, Deborah Nimmons' sister and mother, *Austin O'Fallon*, Suzette Puente's cousin, Alec Stephens, Sandra Cotton, Art & Erville Wheeler, Kim Wahl, Marilyn Fullen, and Cecil Hughey.

Please remember those who have died:

Pew cards listing Pastoral Care services can be found in the pew cardholders. If you or a family member is in need of pastoral care, you may communicate your needs by calling the Parish Office at 325-2711 ext. 10.

We have an exciting opportunity to continue the dialogue with our Sister Parish begun last fall. Remember the magical weekend spent with our Tselal visitors and Fr. Pepe of the Jesuit Mission of Bachajon?

There will be a delegation to our Sister parish March 6-14. All interested can contact susanrobert-sart@gmail.com. There will also be a Sister Parish meeting at Susan's house this Sunday, February 7, at 7 PM. All are welcome.

Immaculate Conception & St. Mary Church Annual Mardi Gras Dinner Dance

Date: Feb 13, 2010, Saturday

Time: 7-11 PM Live Band (The Gumbo Chefs)

Place: Immaculate Conception Church, Jean Moran Hall, 820 18th Avenue

Tickets: \$20 Adults, \$15 Seniors (age 65 +)

Costume Contest Prizes / The Priests will be the Judges Door Prizes and Basket Raffle.

Contact Sonja Cook-Stewart @ 206-722-0782

SCHOOL NEWS

SAVE THE DATE!

St. Therese School Auction Saturday, February 27th W Seattle

For more information please contact Gina Purdy at gina.purdy@hotmail.com or call 206-322-1653. To make reservations online for the dinner and auction please go to the school website: www.stthereseseattle.org



Thank you in advance for your support of St. Therese School!

Auction Office: 206-720-7280

CYO Fundraiser!

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS



Sat, Feb 20th, 7PM –
Comcast Arena in Everett

Tickets are \$20.00 each.
For every ticket sold at St.
Therese, \$5.00 will go to the
St. Therese Athletic Program.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets to this event, please call Lucita Valiere at 206-760-0933 or email: lvaliere79@hotmail.com

Peace Days for Women, "Journey of the Heart," led by Joyce Cox, BVM. Wednesday, February 17th, from 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM at St. Mary-on-the-Lake Peace and Spirituality Center, 1663 Killarney Way, Bellevue. Free-will offering. Bring a sack lunch; coffee and tea provided. To register or for more information contact Carmel Little, CSJP at 425-454-7909 or e-mail peace@csjp-olp.org

PARISH LIFE

February 7, 2010

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 8, 2010

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults group meets at 6:00 PM in the Parish Center. This week and all Mondays until Holy Week will include those Adults who wish to be confirmed on Holy Thursday.

February 13-14, 2010

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"State of St. Therese Parish Report"
at all the Masses.

Concert 7:30 PM on Saturday (see page 2)

February 17, 2010

Ash Wednesday

School Mass 10:00 AM

Park Shore 11:00 AM

Church Mass 7:00 PM

February 19, 2010

Stations of the Cross 2:30 PM

February 20, 2010

Stations of the Cross in Yoga 2:30 PM

February 20-21, 2010

1st Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2010

Reconciliation-communal and individual . 7:00 PM with celebration in Parish Center after the service. Please bring something to share.

February 28, 2010

2nd Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2010

Park Shore Mass 11:00 AM

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated communally, in the context of the Sunday Eucharist. We celebrate baptisms of young children quarterly at all of our weekend Masses. First time parents/guardians are asked to participate in a Baptism Preparation Class to update their understanding of Baptism, the important responsibilities of Christian parenting, and the many ways our parish supports families. To reserve a date for your child's Baptism, please contact Mary Lou Colasurdo. Our next scheduled Baptism dates are April 10th and 11th, June 26th and 27th.

First Eucharist

At about age 7, children can begin to prepare to receive communion, the Body and Blood of Christ, for the first time. In conjunction with the new Archdiocesan guidelines, preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion is a two-year process that includes preparation for First Reconciliation (Confession) and culminates in the First Communion celebration on the first Sunday in May.

Reconciliation

The Church Fathers sometimes called this sacrament "the more difficult Baptism." St. Ambrose drew a parallel between Reconciliation and Baptism: "There are water and tears: the water of Baptism and the tears of repentance." The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturdays, by appointment before Mass in the Reconciliation Chapel, located across from the west facing door of the church. Communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated two times a year in preparation for Christmas and Easter.

Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation is, with Baptism and Eucharist, one of the three sacraments of initiation; Confirmation completes and "confirms" the grace of Baptism. Through the anointing with the sacred chrism the baptized person is "enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit," and more than ever "obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed" (Catechism 1285).

Marriage

The Church looks on marriage as a "covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life" (*Catechism* 1601). In its understanding of marriage, the Church looks back to the union between man and woman ordained by God in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 1-2).

Christ worked His first miracle in the context of a wedding feast. In the Sacrament of Matrimony, the married couple become, in their unity and in their love for one another, "an efficacious sign of Christ's presence" (*Catechism* 1613).

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the parish eight months prior to the desired date. Preparation for celebrating and living this sacrament is required.

Anointing of the Sick

The Anointing of the Sick - formerly known as 'last rites' - is no longer considered a sacrament only for those at the point of death. Instead, this healing sacrament is for all those who are facing major surgery, chronic illness, or the weakness that comes with age.

Communal celebrations of the sacrament are celebrated in the Advent and Lenten Season. It is also celebrated any time there is a serious illness or health crisis. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Funerals

Please contact the parish after a death and before making arrangements with a funeral home so we may be of assistance as soon as possible.

For more information on all sacraments, please contact Mary Lou Colasurdo at 206-720-7279 or marylou@saintthereseparish.org.