

# Third Sunday of Lent

## Sunday, March 8, 2015

**Fr. Marion Nguyen, OSB**—Priest Administrator  
Dorothy L Conklin—Pastoral Assistant for Administration  
John H. Fahey—Pastoral Assistant for Music & Liturgy  
James Liberty—Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation  
Laurie Liberty—Pastoral Assistant for Youth Ministry  
Andy Leech—Chair, Pastoral Council  
George Kushner—Chair, Finance Council  
John Chambers—Co-Chair Finance Council

Call 293-2101 to make an appointment.  
admin@stmaryanacortes.org  
Music@stmaryanacortes.org / liturgy@stmaryanacortes.org  
Fform@stmaryanacortes.org  
Youth@stmaryanacortes.org  
Andyleech@msn.com  
GeorgemKush@icloud.com  
winndriver@comcast.net

Tel: 360-293-2101 website: <http://www.stmaryanacortes.org>

### CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Tue	10	6 pm	Glenn Watts	RIP
Wed	11	9 am	Frank Thompson	RIP
Thu	12	9 am	Sr. Mary Matthew, CSJP	RIP
Fri	13	9 am	Dave Campbell	RIP
Sat	14	9 am	Christine Fitzgerald	RIP

#### PERPETUAL ADORATION—OPEN HOURS AVAILABLE

SUN	2 am & 11 pm	THUR	12- 4 am & 11pm
MON	12, 1, 2, 3 & 4 am	FRI	3, 5 a.m. & 7 pm
TUE	12, 1, 2, & 4 am	SAT	9, & 11 pm
WED	4 am & 11 pm	<b>Contact Sally 293-3222</b>	

### The Belles

The Belles of St. Mary will be holding their monthly meeting Monday 3/9 in the FAC room 5 at 10am. Rummage Sale is just around the corner and we need you! Please come and participate in what is sure to be a lively and informative meeting. The Rummage Sale Committee has been hard at work preparing for a successful sale. Please make sure you have your calendars, as there will be many volunteering hours available. A fantastically fun Birthday Luncheon will follow our meeting at the Farmhouse.



#### PARISH LENTEN MISSION

**MARCH 16-18, 2015**

Presenter: Fr. Michael Vuky

Pastor: St. Francis and Visitation Catholic Church  
in the cities of Roy and Verboot, OR

Theme: When life gives you more than you can handle, kneel! A Lenten journey: Encountering Jesus in a new way.

2 sessions daily, 9 am and 7pm. Each session preceding with confessions and Mass. Catechesis follows after Mass in the Church.

Father Vuky will be on the weekend of March 14/15 and will preach at the Masses.



This class begins on April 7, 2015 at 5:30 PM and runs through May 26, 2015.

#### Coming soon: The Alpha Marriage Course

Saint Mary's Parish will be offering the 8 week Alpha Marriage Course starting on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 5:30PM.

This popular series is designed to help couples strengthen their marriages by addressing eight important topics: strong foundations, communication, conflict resolution, forgiveness, parents and in-laws, good sex, love in action and coping with separation due to illness or military orders (optional).

It is a video based program that includes reading and private discussions between spouses. No group work.

Sessions will begin at 5:30 PM and will end by 8:30 PM.

There will be a candle-light dinner with the first and last class. All others will include dessert and beverages. Cost for the program is \$60.00 per couple. This includes the course materials.

On site child care can be arranged by prior arrangement. Please register by March 29th. Class size is limited to 8 couples.

We will ask for a few volunteers to help. To register or obtain more information please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 360-293-6882 or Don or Pat Webster (Facilitators) 360-588-1494. EMAIL: PATWEBRN@YAHOO.COM



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## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

### LENTEN CORNER

#### "HUNGERING FOR A SEASON OF HOPE"

The next stop on our CRS Rice Bowl journey is the African nation of Niger, where we're reminded that life's joys and challenges are often seasonal. This week we pray for people who struggle to feed their families during the hungry season--when food is in short supply--and we commit to acting for the common good."

Remember Rice Bowl offerings are collected at the end of each weekend Mass during Lent, so don't forget to bring your offering to place in the collection bag.

#### LENTEN SOUP SUPPER AND ACTIVITIES:

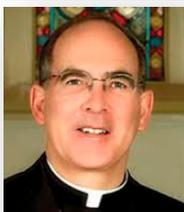
Confessions begin at 4:30pm on Fridays, followed by the Stations of the Cross at 5:15pm, Soup Supper at 6pm (Pasta Fagioli made by the St. Merrymakers), and presentation by Fr. Scott Connolly, Pastor of Assumption Parish, Bellingham. Father will share with us his reflections of the Pilgrimage to Santiago De Compostela [Spain]. Make your Lenten journey more meaningful by attending.

Laurie

### LENTEN ALMSGIVING 2015

#### Lenten Almsgiving 2014 = \$ 9, 371.00

Ash Wednesday	\$ 1,450.00
Rice Bowl	\$ 440.00
Catholic Home Missions inc Black & Indian Mission	\$ 1,064.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 25.00
Soup Supper [Beneficiary: Priests for Life]	\$ 474.00
Easter Flowers for the Church	\$ 597.00
SVDP—CCS Rebate	\$ 1,662.00
Holy Thursday [beneficiary: SVDP]	\$ -
Good Friday [beneficiary: Holy Land]	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,712.00</b>



*"Lent reveals what's at stake?"*

*- Archbishop J. Peter Sartain*

### Fr. Marion's Corner

In a recent dream, I was on a rocky path on a mountain and the mountain was in the middle of an expansive desert. I held both hands together and extended my arms out to receive a rosary from a young woman without a face. As the rosary fell into my hands, I noticed that several links were broken and a couple strands of beads fell to the ground and began to slip into the cracks of the rocks. For whatever reason, I was overwhelmed by a deep sadness and wept bitterly as I grabbed the pieces and frantically but unsuccessfully to piece them together. It nearly drove me to despair.



Upon reflection of this dream, I immediately thought of the scene in the Sistine Chapel in which saints are pulling sinners out the fires of hell into heaven with the use of a rosary. I can imagine how the souls would feel if the rosary were to break. Maybe this is the reason for my tears? The rosary is as strong as its weakest link. Besides the power of prayer, I'm convinced that what breaks my prayer (figurative rosary) is my inability to forgive. C.S. Lewis was right when he said, *"Everyone thinks forgiveness is a lovely idea until he has something to forgive."*

I'm not talking about minor offenses here. I'm talking about deeply hurtful deeds: infidelity of a spouse, physical, emotional or sexual abuse, betrayal of a friend, angry or humiliating words and actions. Resentment seems like a natural response; resentment has been my response. The reality I miss is this: through resentment, I willingly prolong the hurt that another has placed upon my shoulders. Father Jacque Philippe in his book, *Interior Freedom*, speaks of the choice between resentment and forgiveness:

*Resentment attacks our vital forces and does us much harm. When someone has made us suffer, our tendency is to keep the memory of the wrong alive in our minds, like a "bill" we will produce in due time to demand settlement. Those accumulated bills end up poisoning our lives. It is wiser to cancel every debt, as the Gospel invites us to. In return, we will be forgiven everything, and our hearts will be set free, whereas nurturing resentment toward others closes us to the positive things they could contribute to us.*

Although difficult, we recognize that we have a choice. We are fully aware of the consequences of resentment from experience. When we cling to resentment, it is as if we were the souls being pulled out of hell, and resentment is the pliers that break the links in the rosary. How foolish we can be. I recently spotted an anonymous quote that gives me strength to be wise: "The first to apologize is the bravest. The first to forgive is the strongest. And the first to forget is the happiest..."

*Brothers and sisters: Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ. (Eph 4:32)*