

*Dear Parishioners,*

***Last Week's Word: "Why did Mary care about the wine at the Wedding Feast of Cana? I mean, weren't people already a little tipsy already?"***

***"Mary is the most tender of mothers, more than any mother ever has been or ever will be. Why do we not turn to her more for help and assistance, since she already anticipates our needs?"***

***"I think the answer is that we really don't believe, deep down, that God would really care about our needs, let alone our desires. In fact, I think many Catholics have been so well trained in the sacrifice, discipline and 'carrying your cross' and the devil has twisted our reception of the Gospel of repentance so that the message we actually receive is not 'participate in redemption' but 'God really doesn't care about you and is only out to punish you.' Deep down we believe that God doesn't care about our desires, or even worse, despises them and has put us on this earth to purify us of evil, which presumably includes our desires.***

***"The title of my retreat this month was 'Holy Desire.' I was actually grateful to encounter this as I came to the retreat with many frustrated desires that have been building up for years. It was hopeful to hear the news that God really does care about our desires....a message so new to me that I'm only now beginning to process it....I'm only now just beginning to walk in a freedom, even though I'm approaching mid-life (OMG).***

***"While I still have much to sort through in this area of my life, I realized that for me, the specific obstacle to the fulfillment of my desires was not God, but my own self-condemnation. Once I realized that, and SURRENDERED it to the Lord, I felt a lightness of heart I have not felt in years!"***

***"This week, as we remember Martin Luther King Jr, and the anniversary of the tragic Roe vs Wade decision, let us be mindful that true freedom comes when our will is aligned to the Will of God. But that sounds cold. Let's remember that our God, as Christians, we call Father, and this Father-God has a Heart, which became visible in His Son, Jesus Christ. When we look on Jesus, we see something of the Heart of God, a Heart that is FULL of Passion and Desire that we might have an abundant life in Him!"***

***"May Mary our Mother help us to never forget that the Father not only cares about our desires, but has a Heart to Fulfill them beyond all our imagining!"***

➤ ***Keys & Codes Update***

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we transition into our new security and access procedures. ***Please note the Code to the Adoration Chapel will change this week. PLEASE DO NOT GIVE OUT THE CHAPEL CODE! ONLY THE PARISH OFFICE MAY SHARE ACCESS CODES.*** If you notice that the new procedures are excessively burdensome, please communicate your concerns to Ruth Miller at the Parish Office and we will review the best way to respond to your concerns. A special thank you to Travis Switalski, Facilities Supervisor, without whose help this needed security upgrade could not have been achieved.

➤ ***Thank you to the Respect Life Committee and the Knights of Columbus and others for making the March for Life in Olympia possible!***

➤ ***Lenten Parish Mini-Mission: Br. Mauricio Torres of Totus Tuus Feb 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>***

***Br. Mauricio Torres of Totus Tuus*** will be here the weekend of Feb 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> to launch us into our Lenten Parish Mission, which will be an ***abbreviated two-day Mission Monday and Tuesday Feb 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>***. There will be Mass followed by a conference in the morning and evening. Br. Mauricio will introduce us to the practice of ***Consecration to Jesus through Mary*** in the spirituality of ***St. Louis Marie de Montfort***. We will be using the book ***"33 Days to Morning Glory"*** by ***Fr. Michael Gaitley***. As a parish, we will pray through the material in Fr. Gaitley's summary of Marian Consecration so as to prepare to ***renew our Baptismal Consecration to Jesus through Mary sometime in the Easter Season.***

➤ ***Youth Program Updates***

THANK YOU to the ONE COUPLE who has offered to help with ***Middle School Youth Group!***

***We still need more regular assistance for both Middle School and High School Youth Ministries.***

**PLEASE PRAY IF YOU FEEL GOD CALLING YOU TO HELP THE YOUTH AND CALL SARAH ASAP!**

*Fr. Straz*