

hh**Sacraments:**

Infant Baptism -- Parents need to contact the pastor regarding instruction/preparation. The sacrament will be scheduled when the parents and pastor are in agreement that the family is ready for this experience.

Initiation of Adults & Older Children (RCIA): Contact the parish.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00pm at Nativity or by appointment (watch bulletin for special reconciliation services).

Matrimony -- Engaged couples need to contact the pastor at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date. They need to participate in a series of instructions. They should make no final decision regarding the wedding date until they and the pastor are in agreement that they are ready for this experience. **Please do not set a wedding date prior to contacting the pastor.**

Sacrament of the Sick and/or Communion for the Sick -- Either the parishioner or a relative should contact the pastor whenever the parishioner is sick and wishes to receive communion or the Sacrament of the Sick.

Confirmation: Adult & Youth; preparation is required. Please contact the parish.

Parish registration: Registration cards are in the vestibule of the church.

Mass Schedules:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm at Nativity

Sunday: 9:00am at Nativity; 11:15am at St. John's

Daily: Wednesday through Friday at 11:00am at Nativity

Holy Days: see bulletin

Rosary: ½ hour before Mass on Sundays

Day	Date	Time	Intention/Feast	Mass Readings
Sun	04/08	9:00am / 11:15am	2 nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)	Acts 4:32-35 / 1 Jn 5:1-6 / Jn 20:19-31
Mon	04/09	No Daily Mass	The Annunciation	Is 7:10-14; 8:10 / Heb 10:4-10 / Lk 1:26-38
Tues	04/10	No Daily Mass	2 nd Tuesday of Easter	Acts 4:32-37 / Jn 3:7b-15
Wed	04/11	11:00am (NBVM)	St. Stanislaus	Acts 5:17-26 / Jn 3:16-21
Thurs	04/12	11:00am (NBVM)	2 nd Thursday of Easter	Acts 5:27-33 / Jn 3:31-36
Fri	04/13	11:00am (NBVM)	St. Martin I (Pope & Martyr)	Acts 5:34-42 / Jn 6:1-15
Sat	04/14	No Daily Mass	2 nd Saturday of Easter	Acts 6:1-7 / Jn 6:16-21
Sat	04/14	5:00pm (NBVM)	3 rd Sunday of Easter	Acts 3:13-15,17-19 / 1 Jn 2:1-5a / Lk 24:35-48
Sun	04/15	9:00am / 11:15am	3 rd Sunday of Easter	Acts 3:13-15,17-19 / 1 Jn 2:1-5a / Lk 24:35-48

Collection

Collection	NBVM Easter	SJB Easter	NBVM Holy Thursday	SJB Holy Thursday
Budget per Week	[\$1,338.00]	[\$754.00]		
5pm & 9am / 11:15am Sunday	\$1,667.00	\$997.00	\$70.00	\$41.00

Liturgical Ministers for – 04/14/18 to 04/15/18

	NBVM Vigil	NBVM Sunday	SJB Sunday
Server	Ron Haley	Josh Ellis	Gracie, Christina, Pearl, Gabriel
Lector	Ivan Jones	Ivan Jones	David Fiel
EME	Deacon Paul	Joe Elbert	Tracy Points
Music	Paula	Connie & Jackie or Theresa	Carol Fiel & “choir”
Hospitality	n/a	Please sign up	Brace family

Bulletin: Announcements need to be received by Wednesday at 7pm for inclusion in that weekend’s bulletin. Items can be emailed to nbvm.sjb.bulletin@gmail.com or call Deacon Paul at 503-556-0511 or 503-396-8554.

"Watch over me, O God, because I have entrusted myself to you." (Psalm 16:1)

Announcements

General:

Deacon Paul and Paula would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards, and gifts.

Nativity:

The Pastoral Council meets Thursday, April 12, at 6:00pm in the hall.

Rainier United Methodist Church Ladies’ Spring Salad Luncheon – Friday, April 13, from 10:30am to 1:00pm. RSVP to Joan Hackathorn at 503-556-2711 by April 12.

There will be a memorial service for Mick Rea at the Alston Corner Assembly of God on Saturday, April 14, at 11:30am.

Please remember to sign-up to provide hospitality after Mass.

Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 6:30pm in the hall. All are welcome. You can join any time.

St. Johns:

The Pastoral Council meets Thursday, April 12, at 3:00pm in the hall.

TURNING POINT: Please remember to contribute to Turning Point when you can.

Ladies’ Bible Study & Reflection is on Thursdays. Adoration is at 9:45am in the Church. After Adoration, everyone meets at Kathy’s. If interested, call Kathy Reandeau at 503-728-3149.

Thomas, the Doubter / Thomas, the Believer

All the disciples others were huddling together behind locked doors, hoping that the authorities would be satisfied with the blood of their master and leave them alone. All but one. We don't know where Thomas was, but all we know is that he missed it.

Despite the locked doors, there He had stood, glorious in their midst, bringing peace where there had been only fear. Instead of rebuking them for cowardice, He breathed upon them the Spirit of mercy and commissions them to be ambassadors, indeed instruments, of His Divine mercy.

At last they were truly "apostles," for they were "sent out," like Jesus, the original Apostle, who was sent forth by the Father for the forgiveness of sins. Sinners, called to bring other sinners the Good News of mercy. Here they were, sinners, called to console others with the same consolation that they have received from the One without sin.

They couldn't believe that Thomas missed this encounter and couldn't wait to tell him the news. But Thomas stubbornly refused to believe that it was anything more than a mirage. For everyone knows that death is final. Corpses don't come back to life and show up for afternoon tea. Never mind His many puzzling predictions about "raising up this temple in three days." Never mind the fact that all of his brothers save Judas were there and swore they saw His wounds. Thomas proudly insisted on empirical evidence that he could personally inspect to his own satisfaction.

So eight days later the Master once again defies the barred doors and appears in their midst. This time Thomas is present. Imagine the look on his face as his eyes and Jesus' meet. Talking about wanting to crawl under the nearest rock! Jesus invites him to sate his appetite for proof and probe His wounds. Thomas decides not to explain, not to defend, but simply to surrender. He is asked to believe that His master is risen. But he rises to the occasion to confess even more—that His master is not just risen Lord, but eternal God.

Thomas' confession of Jesus' divinity can be seen as the climax, the punch-line, of the entire Gospel of John, a fitting confirmation of its very first verse: "the Word was with God and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

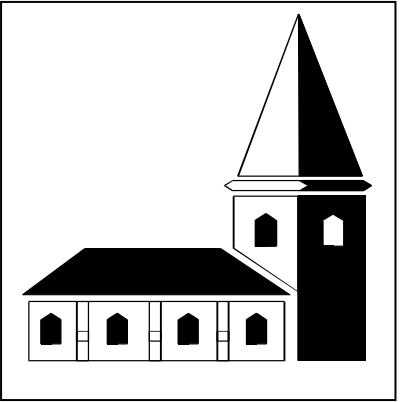
Faith now has overcome fear. It will soon overcome the world. It would take some time, mind you, for the mightiest empire the world had ever seen to fall to its knees in adoration. But eventually, brutal emperors dropped their pretensions, abandoned their pride, and confessed the very same faith as the new believer who would forevermore be known as Thomas the Doubter. In the words of our second reading, "the power that has conquered the world is this faith of ours (I Jn 5:4).

Faith has this sort of power because it is a supernatural gift. It was the Spirit He breathed on them that Easter afternoon that had empowered the ten to believe and become themselves ambassadors of faith and mercy. Without that same Spirit, Thomas was powerless to believe. But once the breath of the Risen One unfroze his hard heart, Thomas too could experience the joy of faith and assume his God-appointed task to be one of the foundation stones of the new temple of God, the Church.

This temple, formed by living stones, was a compelling testimony indeed. The pagans are reported to have remarked "see how these Christians love one another." For they were a community of people who appeared to have one heart and one mind (Acts 4:32-35). They even shared their material resources so that none would be in need. This unity flowed from their one faith.

Thomas was once known as the doubter. But he and his fellow doubters came to be called "the believers." That should give us hope. If we desire it, the Spirit will strengthen the drooping hands and weak knees of our own imperfect faith to make us effective ambassadors to a skeptical world.

Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio (www.crossroadsinitiative.com)



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(East 2nd & "D" Street; Rainier)

St. John the Baptist

(100 SW High Street; Clatskanie)

Pastor: Father Mark Gikenyi

P.O. Box 340, Rainier, OR, 97048

mgikenyi@archdpdx.org

(503) 556-5641

Website: <http://www.nativityofbvm.org>

Bulletin email: nbvm.sjb.bulletin@gmail.com

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

April 8, 2018

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The mission of Nativity of the B.V.M. is to know, love, and serve our Lord, by knowing and loving and serving His people, and by being open to our responsibility to all humanity.

NBVM Volunteer Staff

Rev. Mr. (Deacon) Paul Cramer (Permanent Deacon, Bulletin, Communications, Call To Protect) - (503) 556-0511
Linda Bailey (Business Administrator (NBVM & SJB) - (360) 560-3460 (klondikehill@msn.com) **Paula Cramer** (Assistant)
Connie Ramos (Chair of Pastoral Council) - (503) 556-1154; **Ron Haley** (Vice-Chair) (503) 556-2073
Tom Greer (Chair of Finance Council) - (503) 556-9571
Kay Hansen (Parish Office Assistant) - (503) 556-0071
Connie Lucero (503-556-2514) (Liturgy & Environment / RCIA-Rel. Ed. Coordinator)
Jewel Lee (Greeting Cards) - (701) 260-2857
Ron Haley / Paula Cramer (Sacristans/Altar Linens)
Jackie Schiedler (Music Coordinator) - (503) 556-9690
Theresa Jones (Music – when available) - (503) 556-9137
Paula & Deacon Paul Cramer (Scheduling Use of Parish Buildings) - (503) 556-0511
Estrella Brown (Funeral Arrangements/Hospitality) - (503) 728-0249
Iola Pfaff (Flowers for Summer Only) - (503) 556-3049
Russ Lenoir (Maintenance-when Available)

St. John the Baptist

The mission of St. John the Baptist Parish is to be an involved witness to the Gospel, so that each of us may develop more fully our potential for spiritual growth, as we nurture and expand our parish family and help the community around us experience the Lord.

SJB Volunteer Staff

Sandy Hartley (Chair of Pastoral Council) - (503) ***-****; **Suzie Breeden** (Vice-Chair) (503) 728-3045
Larry Reandeau (Chair of Finance Council) – (503) 728-3149
Gloryann Brace (Altar Linens & Covers) - (503) 455-2672
Tracy Points (Rel. Ed. / Youth Ministry Coordinator) - (503) 369-7441
Carol Sluder (Scheduling Use of Church Buildings / Greeting Cards) - (503) 728-3032
Bonnie Romer (Funeral Hospitality Coordinator) - (503) 728-2084
Anita & Gary Laing (Communications) - (503) 728-3991
Frank Taormina (Maintenance-when Available) - (503) 728-0306