

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	02/11	9:00am / 11:15am	6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Lv 13:1-2,44-46 / 1 Cor 10:31—11:1 / Mk 1:40-45
Mon	02/12	No Daily Mass	6 th Weekday in Ordinary Time	Jas 1:1-11 / Mk 8:11-13
Tues	02/13	No Daily Mass	6 th Weekday in Ordinary Time	Jas 1:12-18 / Mk 8:14-21
Wed	02/14	11am (BVM)-6:30pm (SJB)	Ash Wednesday	Jl 2:12-18 / 2 Cor 5:20—6:2 / Mt 6:1-6,16-18
Thurs	02/15	11:00am (NBVM)	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	Dt 30:15-20 / Lk 9:22-25
Fri	02/16	11:00am (NBVM)	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	Is 58:1-9a / Mt 9:14-15
Sat	02/17	No Daily Mass	Servite Founders	Is 58:9b-14 / Lk 5:27-32
Sat	02/17	5:00pm NBVM	1 st Sunday of Lent	Gn 9:8-15 / 1 Pt 3:18-22 / Mk 1:12-15
Sun	02/18	9:00am / 11:15am	1 st Sunday of Lent	Gn 9:8-15 / 1 Pt 3:18-22 / Mk 1:12-15

Collection

Collection	NBVM	SJB
Budget per Week	[\$1,338.00]	[\$754.00]
5pm & 9am / 11:15am Sunday	\$1,892.00	\$501.00
Building Fund	\$10.00	\$15.00

Liturgical Ministers for – 02/17/18 to 02/18/18

	NBVM Vigil	NBVM Sunday	SJB Sunday	NBVM Ash Wed	SJB Ash Wed
Server	Ron Haley	Josh Ellis	Gracie, Christina, Pearl, Gabriel	Emma Hisey	TBA
Lector	Open	Estrella Brown	Mannie Mustola	Gary Schiedler	TBA
EME	Deacon Paul	Rick Brown	Lloyd Hartley	Joe Elbert	TBA
Music	Paula	Connie & Jackie	Carol Fiel & “choir”	Paula & Jackie	TBA
Hospitality	n/a	Please sign up	Guyton family	n/a	n/a

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.

"I will thank you, Yahweh, with all my heart; I will retell all your wonders. I will be glad and rejoice because of you." (Psalm 9:2-3)

Announcements

General:

Lent begins Ash Wednesday. Mass will at 11:00am at Nativity and 6:30pm at St. Johns.

Don’t forget the Archbishop’s Catholic Appeal.

Nativity:

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:

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.

Dealing with Suffering

Catholics are often confused about suffering. Some writers extol its surpassing value. But does that mean that we should look for suffering? Or, if suffering should come our way, that it would be unspiritual to seek relief from it?

The story of Jesus and the leper in Mark 1:40-45 provides us with a case study on the subject. In biblical times, “leprosy” was a general category that included many different skin diseases. We don’t know what kind of “leprosy” the man had, exactly. It could have been Hansen’s disease, which is what we call leprosy today. In that case, he would not have been in a lot of physical pain, since this disease takes away one’s ability to feel much of anything in many parts of the body.

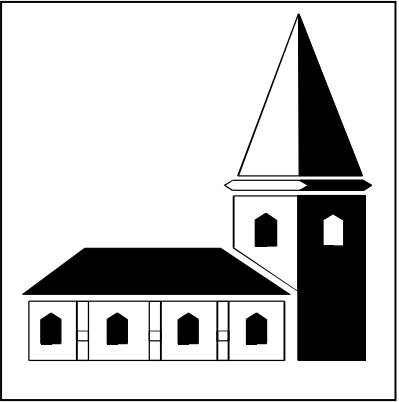
This, in fact is one of the problems with the Hansen’s disease. Pain actually is supposed to be a gift from God—it tells us that there is something wrong that we must attend to before it gets worse. Without this unpleasant sensation we might be tempted, for example, to ignore an infection or continue to put stress on an overworked muscle that desperately needs a rest. The consequence could be permanent damage to the organ in question, and this is why lepers are often horribly disfigured, with missing digits and extremities. This hideous appearance causes the leper further suffering. But regardless of what kind of leprosy the man had, there is yet another kind of suffering experienced by all lepers in ancient Israel. Leviticus 13 tells us that, to guard against infecting others, lepers had to isolate themselves from the rest of society, living as outside city limits, obliged to warn all who approached them that they were “unclean.”

So the leper asked Jesus to rid him of his despicable disease, with all its ugly consequences. Jesus promptly healed him. He did this not to prove he was a prophet, the messiah, indeed, the Son of God. In fact, he gave the man strict orders not to broadcast the news of the miracle. Jesus healed him, instead, out of compassion. It was a work of mercy, which is love’s response to suffering. Notice Jesus did not scold him for wanting to be relieved of the suffering associated with this dreadful disease. He had the power to free him from it and so he did.

So there are at least two lessons here—it’s OK to seek relief from suffering and, should we encounter it in others, we must do all we can to relieve it. But there is more. Jesus took away one source of suffering but imposed another. The former leper was understandably thrilled at his change of fortune and passionately wanted to tell everyone about it. Jesus commanded him to restrain his passion and be quiet. This by the way, was for the good of others—to make it possible for Jesus to move freely through the towns of Galilee preaching the gospel and revealing his identity in his own way and according to his own timetable. But the leper would not accept the discipline imposed upon him by the Son of God, and the result was that from that point on it was Jesus, instead of the leper, who had to stay out in the wilderness, away from the towns.

We need not go looking for suffering. It will inevitably find us. Generally, we should seek relief from many forms of suffering, such as physical illness. But as long as we find suffering to be our traveling companion, we should bear it with as much joy and faith as possible in the name of the Lord, who suffered for us, joining our suffering to His for the redemption of the world. This is what St. Paul says – whatever we do, and whatever we have to endure, we must do for the glory of God and the salvation of all (I Cor 10:31-33).

Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio (Crossroads Initiative / 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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 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 of Special Occasions) - (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