

St. Joseph Catholic Church
POB 1010
Nome, AK 99762-1010
Pastor: Rev. Tom Kuffel
Email: tkuffel@cbna.org
Web: <http://walaskacatholic.org/>
Parish: 907-443-5527; Cell 907-434-6117
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Announcements

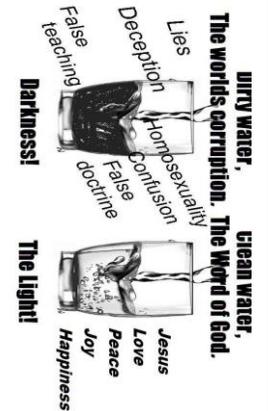
We thank all those who came to the breakfast and helped with the Focus Missionary Trip and VBS.

THANK YOU!

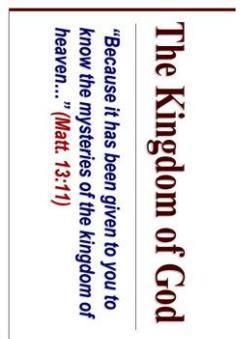
Funeral Mass for
 Vince Kunuk July 29
 at 11:00 AM

Baptism of Alexa
 Canon and Johnny
 Hernandez July 29
 4:00 PM

**"He who sows
 good seed is the
 Son of Man,
 the field is the
 world, the good
 seed the children
 of the kingdom.**



**The weeds are the
 children of the evil
 one,
 and the enemy
 who sows them is
 the devil.**

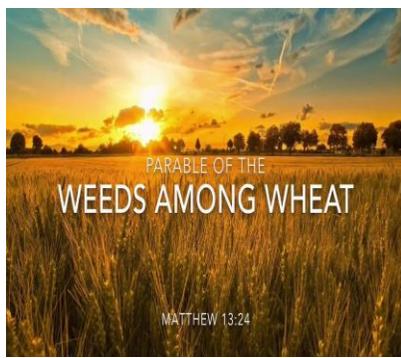


**The righteous will
 shine like the sun
 in the kingdom of
 their Father.**



St. Joseph			
7.16.2017			
\$1651.00			

**"EYE HAS NOT SEEN, NOR EAR HEARD, NOR
 HAVE ENTERED INTO THE HEART OF MAN THE
 THINGS WHICH GOD HAS PREPARED
 FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."
 But God has revealed them to us through
 His Spirit.
 (I Corinthians 2:9-10)**



Stewardship!

Being a disciple demands discipline.

As disciples, we have commitments to keep and laws to obey, and duties to perform. But a difference exists between a disciple, that is a good steward, and merely a student.

**Disciples are dutiful because they
 want to be. Students are dutiful
 because they have to be.**

As we grow to be disciples, that is disciples on a mission, we need more than just duties and chores to do. We need a reason to do them. The reason we do is love – God’s Love!

True disciples experience God’s love and do their duties out of love. Love is the essence of the sacrifices that disciples make.

If we are not in love with Jesus, if we have not encountered Jesus heart to heart, it is very hard to follow the commandments.

Today many are students of Christianity. They pass the tests, they know the rules, they do what they need to do as puppets do; but they never experienced the healing grace of Jesus, nor the answered prayers of the Holy Spirit. They never had a life changing event that touched their heart.

Stewardship is not just being responsible. A good steward has a much deeper meaning. Just like friends versus lovers. Friends will do things for friends, but a couple in love will do it for a much different reason. So too with parents and siblings.

Being a good steward allows the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart as you open your heart to Him. Listen: "For the Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings" (Rom 8:26).

Why Be Catholic

One of the common things that you will hear said of the Catholic Church to condemn it is that "there are great sinners in it." People use this to say that the Catholic Church cannot be right, cannot be true, because "look at those members; they aren't living what they claim."

Certainly, this is a hard argument to come up against in our defense of the Church, and oftentimes an even harder difficulty to understand ourselves. But the parable of Jesus in today's gospel teaches us how much the field of the Church is such a gift of God's love.

You see, God loves his Church so much that he is like the farmer who will not have the weeds pulled before the harvest out of a desire to protect every last grain of wheat. We are the plants growing in the fields of the Church, and Christ desires that we stay in the field until our harvest time, or until our deaths.

Those whose lives are that of the good wheat he does not want to uproot by accident when pulling out the weeds. In fact, many of us tend to look a lot like weeds until the final harvest, and so by waiting until all has reached its appointed end he ensures that none will be lost who will turn to him.

The mystery of all those in Christ's Church who are sinners is in fact a recognition of hope for us, because each of us knows what a sinner we are, and how in spite of that Christ calls us to ever deeper conversion (change of life in him) and a life of accepting his grace to live for heaven.

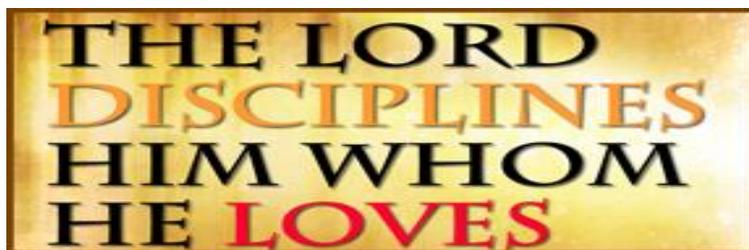
As Catholics, we have the privilege of being the "field hospital for sinners" that Pope Francis speaks of, as we continually strive to grow into a more perfect living out of the Faith given to us by Christ.

By Ben Doudna

Weekly Schedule:

Date	Mass Time	Place	Feast Day	Lector/Minister	Intention	Activity
Mon July 24	5:30 PM	Nome	Sharbel MakhluF		D. Jones/Frank+	
Tue July 25	5:30 PM	Nome	St. James		M. Goedecke	
Wed July 26	5:30 PM	Nome	Joachim/Anne		Eugene Griffiths+	
Thu July 27	5:30 PM	Nome			Goren Connel	
Fri July 28	8:00 AM	Nome			Phyllis Connel+	
Sat July 22	5:30 PM	Nome	16 th Sunday		R Richter +	
Sun July 23	10:30 AM	Nome	16 th Sunday		St. Ann	

**You gave your children
good ground for hope
that you would permit
repentance for their sins.
But You Must Ask!**



God's Will For You

Jesus does not come to condemn you. He comes to heal you! He does not come to judge you; He comes to reveal to you who you really are. Yet, so many Christians become judgmental and hypercritical, condemning each other as false or fake. Yet, St. James teaches us so clearly,

Do not speak evil of one another, brothers. Whoever speaks evil of a brother or judges his brother speaks evil of the law and judges the law. If you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save or to destroy. Who then are you to judge your neighbor? (James 4:11)

Christianity easily becomes a religion of criticism and accusation, but Christ taught us Christians – not to judge – but to forgive; not to blame but to exhort, not to separate ourselves from evil but transform evil into good.

Just as Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers intending evil to come upon him because of their envy, so too Jesus was condemned to die accused as being satanic but God meant it for good.

Only God can bring evil out of good. Only God can break the chains of evil that enslave us with his powerful, all forgiving love. Only God has the power to transform something that was intended to be evil into something that is immaculate.

All things work for good for those who love God!

Jesus reveals this mystery of God's mercy in the parable of the Wheat and the Weeds. Mercy is unfathomable to most for mercy embraces the sufferings and misery of the other as his or her own pain. Not only does Jesus embrace our sufferings and misery, but endures the price and punishment of the sentence – Death by Crucifixion!

His death is our death. His sufferings are our sufferings. His cross is our cross that we are supposed to carry. And the real cross and suffering of the sentence is not the pain and punishment due to sin, but the hopelessness and despair. Without Christ there is no hope, no remedy to the evil in our world.

God allows evil in the world just as the parable reveals that weeds, evil, grow with the wheat, goodness. But by his mercy Jesus brings good out of the evil. He gives us hope that if we follow Him, He will bestow divine goodness upon us.

This is such a foreign thought. How does God do this? Why not just stop the evil to begin with? Why not remove evil from our lives? If God is all knowing, He certainly knows how to remove evil from our lives. If God is all loving, why does he allow evil to exist in the first place? If God is all powerful, just his word would reduce Satan and his evil followers into dust. Why do I, why do we have to suffer and face evil, death, and despair?

Because He created us free. He created us free to choose and in that struggle of choosing, we experience the intensity of God's love. Love sets us free, but love must be free it cannot be coerced. That is why St. Paul tells us,

The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, He intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will (Rom 8: 27).

This is the Mystery of the Kingdom. We are born into death and despair because Satan sowed evil in our hearts; but Jesus comes and creates hope in our hearts as He conquers evil, death, by embracing the evil intended for us and conceives the most mysterious mercy. By his death we are healed.

Satan intended Jesus' death for evil. God the Father transformed that evil into the most spectacular change of events. His death frees us from sin the cause of death and offers us eternal life.

