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March 14, 2021
4th Sunday of Lent

“THE YEAR OF ‘AMORIS LAETITIA FAMILY’”

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

Lenten greetings to you.

On 19 March 2021, Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the fifth anniversary of the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris laetitia*, on the joy and beauty of familial love, Pope Francis will inaugurate the Year “*Amoris Laetitia* Family,” which will conclude on 26 June 2022 on the occasion of the X World Meeting of Families in Rome. The Holy Father will be present for the Meeting.

Family, the domestic Church: “The pandemic experience has highlighted the central role of the family as the domestic Church, and has shown the importance of community ties between families,” the Dicastery said in a statement announcing the Year. “Through the spiritual, pastoral, and cultural initiatives planned in the Year ‘*Amoris Laetitia*



Family,’ Pope Francis intends to address all ecclesial communities throughout the world, exhorting each person to be a witness of family love.”

Formation instruments at the service of communities:

The statement goes on to say that the Dicastery will share resources on “family spirituality, formation and pastoral activity for marriage preparation, affective education for young people, and on the holiness of married couples and families who live out the grace of the sacrament in their daily life.” In addition, international academic symposia will be organized, “to examine in-depth the contents and

implications of the Apostolic Exhortation in relation to highly topical issues that affect families around the world.”

The objectives of the Year *Amoris Laetitia* Family:

Ahead of the formal opening of the Year in March, the Dicastery has prepared an informational brochure explaining the objectives and initiatives of the Year “*Amoris Laetitia* Family,” and offering concrete suggestions for dioceses and parishes.

The Year “*Amoris Laetitia* Family” is intended to spread the message of *Amoris laetitia*, and it is in that exhortation

that the objectives of the Year can be found. The first is to share the content of the exhortation more widely, in order to help people “experience the Gospel of the family as a joy that fills hearts and lives (*Amoris laetitia*, 200).” The brochure says, “A family that discovers and experiences both the joy of having a gift, and of

being a gift for the Church and society, ‘can become a light in the darkness of the world’ (AL,66).”

A second objective is to announce the precious value of the sacrament of marriage, which has “in itself a transforming power of human love.” Further objectives include enabling “families to become active agents of the family apostolate,” and making “young people aware of the importance of formation in the truth of love and in the gift of self.”

(continued on page 2)

If you have any questions about our parish or would like to join, please contact our parish office

417 Washington St. Oregon City, OR † 503-742-8200 † Fax: 503-742-8219

Confessions: Sat. 3:30pm | **Daily Mass Time:** T-F 8:00am

Sunday Mass Times: Sat. 5:00pm | Sun. 8:30am, 10:30am, 1:30pm (Spanish)

For Prayer Requests: email sjachurch.prayerchain@gmail.com

Pastor's Weekly Reflection – continued

Lastly, there is an invitation to broaden the vision and action of pastoral care for the family during the Year, so that it can become more transversal and include all family members, including married couples, children and young people, the elderly, and those in difficult family situations.

Concrete suggestions: The Dicastery also offers concrete suggestions for initiatives that can be implemented in dioceses and parishes throughout the year, including strengthening marriage preparation programs and accompanying newlyweds in their first years of marriages, and organizing meetings for parents on how to raise their children. The brochure suggests “promoting meetings for reflection and discussion on the beauty and challenges of family life, which should expand horizons both in terms of recognizing the value of the family on a societal level; as well as in creating well-established networks of pastors and families who, by their own sharing and witness, can accompany those who are struggling.” The brochure also addresses the care and concern that should be shown for couples in crisis.

The elderly, too, should be the object of pastoral attention, which “seeks to overcome the ‘throw-away culture’ and societal indifference”; while youth ministry should be incorporated “into initiatives that reflect upon and discuss issues such as family, marriage, chastity, openness to life, the use of social media, poverty, and respect for creation (cf. AL, 40).” The brochure also recommends special attention to young children during the Year.

Reciprocity between family and the Church: A particular aspect that emerges in the context of the Year “Amoris Laetitia Family” is the desire for greater involvement of married couples in diocesan and parish structures to set up family pastoral care and a deepening of

the formation of pastoral workers, seminarians and priests so that, working with families, they are up to the challenges of today's world. "To this end," underlines the text of the Dicastery, “it will be important to make the reciprocity between the 'family-domestic Church' and the Church (AL, 200), so that each may mutually discover and value each other as an irreplaceable gift.”

A further suggestion is to “promote a missionary vocation in families (cf. AL, 201, 230, and 324) by creating times for formation in evangelization and missionary initiatives (e.g., on the occasion of children’s reception of the sacraments, during marriage preparation, anniversaries or important liturgical moments.” (*Courtesy: Vatican News*)

Saint Joseph, guardian of the redeemer, intercede before God for our families.

This weekend at the 5pm mass we will celebrate the second scrutiny. The scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life. Please pray for them.

Many blessings,



Rev. Maxy D'Costa
Pastor



GIVE

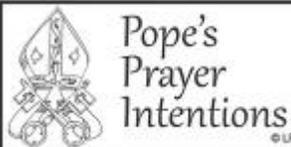
Madonna Center for Life Baby Shower

Catholic Daughters is collecting donations of NEW baby items or handmade NEW baby items (must be new due to the pandemic), as well as monetary donations after masses on March 13 & 14th. We will have a table set up by the bell tower. We welcome your donations and appreciate your generosity during this time of great need.

Madonna's Center



PRAY



MARCH - Sacrament of reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

Church Open During The Week For Prayer

The church will be open **Monday - Friday after 8:00am Mass to 4:00pm (Saturday - 8:00am - 3:00pm)** for personal prayer and reflection. Bring your family and come spend some time with Jesus. Please enter through the side door of the church.

Parish-wide Bible Challenge - Mark 3:1-12

Fr. Maxy urges each of us to read and reflect on the Gospel of Mark this liturgical year. If you have already started reading Mark, that's great! This week, let's read Mark Chapter 3 verses 1-12. If you need a bible, please contact the parish office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Every Friday:

All are invited to the Adoration every Friday during Lent from 8:45am to 5:45pm. Please come spend some time in prayer and reflection with your family before the Blessed Sacrament.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Men's Retreat, March 20

All men are invited to a day retreat at St. John the Apostle in the Parish Center Saturday March 20th from 8:30am- 4:00pm. The focus of the retreat is reflecting on St. Joseph a model for marriage, family, and spiritual leadership. This is a free event with lunch included sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The talks given by Bishop Liam Cary, Fr. Theo Lang, Ryan Mainard, Fr. Gabriel Moser and Brother Louis Nguyn will be live streamed. Contact Mike Dec to register: 971-267-7868.



Prayer to St. Joseph:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Attend Weekend Mass without Signing Up:

St. John the Apostle Parish will not require weekend Sign-ups. Just show up by the side entrance we have been using at least ten minutes before mass begins and our Hospitality Ministers will lead you to your seat.

The following requirements are still in place:

- Face masks to be worn over nose and mouth while in the church
- Physical distancing must be maintained
- No hand shakes, hugs etc except within your own household
- Sanitizing after Masses

And the dispensation from attending weekend Mass is also still in place.

Parish & School Staff

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School Secretary: Leslie McDowell
503-742-8232 | leslie@sja-eagles.com

Calendar and Mass Intentions

Sat, March 13

7:00am Exodus 90, YR
11:00am Scouts Pinewood Derby, PC
3:30-4:30 pm Confessions
5:00pm Mass - Errelyn Culi †

Sun, March 14 4th Sunday of Lent

8:30am Mass - All Parishioners
10:30am Mass - Phyllis Sundstrom †
11:45am 1st Comm Parent/Child Mtg, PC
1:30pm Mass (Spanish)
6:30pm Bible Study, Chapel

Mon, Mar 15

5:00am Exodus 90, YR
6:00pm Boy Scouts, PC
6:00pm Cub Scouts, YR

Tues, Mar 16

8:00am Mass - Chuck Fuller, INT
6:30pm RCIA, Chapel

Wed, Mar 17

8:00am Mass - Matt McNiece INT
6:15pm Bible Study, Chapel
7:00pm Middle School Ministry, Rm 202
7:00pm Youth Group & Confirmation, Library

Thurs, Mar 18

8:00am Mass - Sue Ann Jones †
9:15am Bible Study, Chapel

Fri, Mar 19

8:00am Mass - Jimmy Setera †
8:45am-6:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
1:30pm PWOP Lenten Reflections, Chapel
6:00pm Stations of the Cross (English)
7:00pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish)

Sat, Mar 20

7:00am Exodus 90, YR
8:00am Men's Retreat, PC
3:30-4:30pm Confessions
5:00pm Mass - Albert Lou †

Sun, Mar 21 Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:30am Mass - All Parishioners
10:30am Mass - Nancy Kraus †
1:30pm Mass (Spanish)
3:00pm Welcome Cafe Sack Lunch, SVdP
6:30pm Bible Study, Chapel

Sacraments and Services

About Baptism Formation: To begin the process, contact Ryan Mainard, Pastoral Associate: Phone 503-742-8228
Email: r.mainard@sja-catholicchurch.com

Marriage: Couples that plan to get married, please contact our Parish Priest for Marriage Formation Classes 9 months prior to the desired wedding date. (pastor@sja-catholicchurch.com)

Funeral Mass / Service: Please first contact Rev. Maxy D'Costa at 503-742-8200 to plan a funeral service at St. John the Apostle for your loved one at your earliest convenience. If you would like your loved one buried in the St. John the Apostle cemetery, please contact Gary Avery at 503-655-7148 to make those arrangements

Family Member that has moved to assisted living/care facility/hospice: If you have a family member that has moved to a care facility, please inform the parish office so we can arrange for pastoral care and we will note the address in our records.

Assisted Hearing System: We have an assisted listening system to help facilitate better hearing for all of our members. Contact the office.

FORMED! Connect Now

Online Faith Formation Content.
Visit sja-catholicchurch.formed.org to register.

Bulletin Announcements

Bulletin Announcements due on the Friday, nine days before the Bulletin publication date. bulletin@sja-catholicchurch.com

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

This week's need is Pork n Beans.



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Weekly Offertory

Week of January 31	\$ 13,545.89
Week of February 7	\$ 6,413.13
Weeks of February 14 & 21	\$ 28,129.41
Week of February 28	\$ 12,955.09
Week of March 7	\$ 6,962.00
YTD Budgeted	\$ 455,307.43
YTD Received	\$ 443,630.66
Difference	\$ (11,676.77)

This week's featured advertiser is:

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CONNECT

Journey through Lent

- **Daily Mass:** Tues-Fri 8:00am

- **Adoration:** Fridays will start after Mass and end at 5:45pm.

- **Stations of the Cross:**

Every Friday:

English - 6:00pm

Spanish - 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross will be live-streamed.

- The church is open daily for personal reflection.

- For more Lenten resources:

Access the on-line platform **FORMED**



'With Great Power' Confirmation Retreat



Emely Ferreyra, Michelle Luna, Bobby Brotherton, Joaquin Gonzalez, Diego Servin, Johnathan Rosas, & Emmanuel Guerrero at the Confirmation retreat at the Canby Grove with NET Ministries.



Heatherle Chambers with Michelle Luna, Alesandra Delgado, and Emely Ferreyra discussing the saints.



NET team leading Holy Spirit baseball game with Diego Servin and Emmanuel Guerrero.

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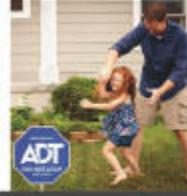
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