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Reconciliation: Sat. afternoon, 3:00 pm or by appointment.
Baptism: Call for pre-Baptism preparation video.
Anointing: Contact parish office in case of illness or need.
Wedding Plans? To avoid last-minute confusion, please contact Father Julian at least six months before your planned wedding date!

the Feast of Pentecost

May 11, 2008

Dear Parishioners,

This is Mothers' Day weekend. We express our gratitude not only to our own mother, but to all mothers. Someone has said that being a mother is the hardest job on earth. If anyone says they are "just a mom," they are greatly understating their role in life.

There is no denying the importance of motherhood for the human infant. Animals that grow to maturity in a year or two can take care of themselves within a few months. But a human being needs care for the best part of 18-20 years.

The mother has a great role to play in the development of the likes and dislikes of her child. Even the way the child speaks and the pattern of the child's thinking is greatly influenced by the mother's early conversations with the child.

The demands on a mother's love are almost constant. They begin at conception when she becomes increasingly absorbed by the new life inside her. With the birth of the baby new demands are placed on her: when the child falls, she must "kiss it all better"; when the child is hungry, she feeds it; when the child is sick, she becomes a nurse.

With adolescence, the demand as mother is suddenly reversed. She now must learn to let go and encourage the child to discover his or her own independence. She must learn to establish boundaries without being overly rigid, how to accept the critical attitudes of the adolescent without being crushed, how to understand the adolescent's need for independence.

It was in mom that we learned the value of prayer, of loving and giving. She taught us perseverance, faithfulness and how to overcome fear.

As we sing the praises of motherhood, we might ask, "What about dad?" Dad, if he is a good father and husband, is right there with mom, supporting her and helping her all the way. But his day comes up next month.

Today we honor mom. Be sure to tell you mom, "Thanks for everything. I love you!"

In the meantime, don't forget to pray for all the sick in the parish. Some of them are moms, too. Also pray for peace in the world, and for the safety of all our troops.

God bless all of you!

Fr. Julian, osb



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday at Farming ————— 8:15 pm
Sunday morning at St. Martin ——— 10:00 am
Monday morning— **No Mass.**
Tues-Thurs-Friday at St. Martin— 8:00 am
Wednesday at Farming ————— 8:00 am
Eve of any Holy Day — 8:15 pm at Farming
Holy Days ————— 8:15 pm at St. Martin
(unless otherwise announced)

MASS INTENTIONS

12 Mon – **No Mass Today**
13 Tues – † Chad Lieser
14 Wed – **8:00 am Mass at St. Catherine's**
15 Thur – † Verena Terres
16 Fri – † Sylvester Doll
17 Sat – **8:15 pm Mass at St. Catherine's**
18 Sun – **10:00 am Mass at St. Martin:**
~for the Parish

Daily Mass Readings

Sunday Readings: Cycle A Weekday Readings: Year 2

May 12 – Monday • Jas 1: 1-11 • Mk 8: 11-13
May 13 – Tuesday • Jas 1: 12-18 • Mk 8: 14-21
May 14 – *Matthias, apostle* • Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26 • Jn 15: 9-17
May 15 – *St. Isidore* • Jas 2: 1-9 • Mk 8: 27-33
May 16 – Friday • Jas 2: 14 • Mk 8: 34-9: 1
May 17 – Saturday • Jas 3: 1-10 • Mk 9: 2-13
***May 18** – **Trinity Sunday** • Ex 34: 4b-6, 8-9
• 2 Cor 13: 11-13 • Jn 3: 16-18
*** = Holy Day of Obligation**

Band Practice

- **Tuesday, May 13th at 7:30 pm.**
- **Tuesday, May 20th at 6:00 pm?**
(To play before the Dinner begins.)
- **Tuesday, May 27th at 7:30 pm.**

All musicians please come ready to play this Tuesday – and please look to see if you have a copy of the "103 Tunes" band book so it can be photocopied and returned to Chatfield Band library.

Choir Practice

- **Monday, May 19th at 7:30 pm.**

All adult choir members, please report to the choir pews on **Sunday, May 18**, to sing for the Mass. Youth Choir is not able to furnish the music for that Sunday. Thanks.

Reduce the Debt Load NOW



My mom used to eat a lot of natural foods until she learned that most people die of natural causes.

WHAT'S WHERE:

May 13 – St. Andrew's School, Greenwald. **Chicken Dinner.** 11:30 am-1:00 pm. Come and enjoy home-cooked chicken, potatoes & gravy, vegetables, coleslaw, homemade bread and dessert. Cost is \$5.00. Takeout available.

May 17 – St. Mary's parking lot, Melrose. Non-denominational **Motorcycle Blessing.** 6:00 pm. Food/cash donations to Melrose Food Shelf accepted. Optional 30-40 mile ride after the blessing.

May 18 – River Lakes Arena, Richmond. **Annual Firemen's Dinner & Silent Auction.** 4 pm–7:30 pm. BBQ dinner with all the fixings. Advance tickets \$8.00 from firemen or at Casey's, Wenner Hardware or Richmond Marine. (Tickets at the door, \$9.00)

May 23 – Immaculate Conception Church basement, New Munich. **Blonigen Family Benefit Dinner.** 4:30 pm–8:00 pm. Serving a fine spaghetti Dinner. Sponsored by New Munich Jaycees & New Munich Lions Club. No tickets will be sold, goodwill offering may be made at the dinner. More info contact the Lions at (320) 837-5446.

THE GREAT MYSTERIES

SIN -- A View From the Pew where a Mother Sits

In the first chapters of the Bible (Genesis 1-11), we find four stories that give us a basic notion of sin: Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit, Cain's murder of his brother Abel, the corruption of Noah's neighbors, and the building of the tower of Babel. All four stories have the same theme: The creature turns from the creator and tries to go it alone with disastrous results.

I wanted to invite my neighbor to read those four stories. They seemed appropriate in light of her words to me: "We had a penance service last month at our parish, but I didn't go. I couldn't figure out what my sins were. I even wonder if I know anymore what sin is." Before I could respond, she went on to say a few more things.

"A funny thing happened since that penance service. Our new assistant gave the homily last Sunday at church. He talked about sin. He said sin is a refusal to love God and other people. I grew up with the notion that sin is breaking God's law, and I do believe God commands us to love him and our neighbor.

"Afterwards, I gave the whole thing some more thought. There are aspects of God's law that don't make sense to me; I question those just like kids question their parents. I thought about how my teenage daughter screams about my making rules about where she goes and who she goes there with and what time she needs to be home. My youngest is the same way. I tell him not to ride his bike along the highway. He resents all the rules and doesn't see that they are made out of love and care. We're all the same. I miss what lies behind God's rules. They are expressions of his love.

"I guess some of us have to grow up, have kids we love to tears. We have to make some rules ourselves before we recognize that sin is not just breaking God's law, it's acting like our own kids. We so easily overlook the love behind those rules and sometimes even refuse to believe that God loves us at all."

I'm glad that I listened to her. I'm glad she listened to the love in her own heart, the love of a mother. That kind of love is the Holy Spirit speaking. Emmett Collins, C.S.S.R

"The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender." ~Proverbs 22:7

I am the absolutely least-qualified parishioner to give financial advice. But there are spiritual *and* psychological issues with the present national muddle which need more than public mention. They need serious attention.

A Goldman Sachs analyst says that crude oil prices could reach \$200 per barrel by Labor Day. Imagine the impact, especially if your family or farm budget can barely cover the interest payments on your credit card debt.

For those of us who grew up in families that survived the 1930s depression, the American Dream was to have a home free and clear of mortgages. A debt-free home was the goal of every family in the 20th-century United States.

But we fell prey to Easy Street hucksters. Being mired in debt has become the American way of life. Despite all logic, consumer debt, particularly credit card debt, is on the rise. The stigma once associated with debt is gone. It has become the norm to borrow money even for everyday items like gasoline and groceries. We have become a nation of debtors.


Debt is so ingrained into our culture that few Americans can imagine a car without a payment, a house without a mortgage, a student without a loan, credit without a card. "We've been sold debt with such repetition and with such fervor that most folks can't conceive of what it would be like to have no payments," says Christian financial counselor Dave Ramsey. We've been trained to make monthly payments, but the truth is that debt is contrary to God's plan for our lives. Scripture clearly says the borrower is slave to the lender — God would have us free of that kind of bondage.

And we're on the verge of a financial meltdown. It's impossible to predict what the coming months will bring, yet we need to be prepared both practically and spiritually. How can we disconnect from the culture which enslaves us?

A good start would be to unplug for at least 3 hours a day. All the electronic gadgets. Every cell phone, computer, iPod, DVD player. Every game machine. Every television.

Every evening. Everyone in the family. Six months and your plastic debts will shrink. I'm not kidding. *~yr. obt. svt.*

STEWARDSHIP	April 27, 2008		May 4, 2008	
	Adults	930.00	Adults	1514.00
	Youth	2.00	Youth	4.00
	Children	1.25	Children	3.25
	Plate	74.00	Plate	68.00
	Votives	39.60	Votives	33.00
	Total	1046.85	Visitor	34.00
			Total	1656.25



If raising children was going to be easy, it never would have started with something called labor.

Knock... and the Door shall be opened

A pastor went out one Saturday to visit his parishioners. At one house it was obvious that someone was home, but nobody came to the door even though the pastor had knocked several times. Finally, the pastor took out his card and wrote "Revelations 3:20" on the back of it, and stuck it in the door.

{Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him and him with me.}

The next day, the card turned up in the collection plate. Below the pastor's message was the notation "Genesis 3:10".

{I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.}



"Did you get the email I sent you ten seconds ago?"