

Prophets in the Old Testament such as Isaiah, Jeremiah and others were called by God to proclaim his teachings and his will for us to guide and direct us. Most of them were rejected, and sometimes put to death by the powerful and elite.

Today, the Church celebrates the solemnity of his birth. Jesus told his Twelve Apostles: *Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist.* What made John the Baptist the greatest of all the prophets? Was it his personality? No. Was it the ascetical life that he lived? No. What made him the greatest of all the prophets was the role that he played in the great drama of our salvation. He was the one who would point to Jesus as the Lamb of God. His role was to point out the tremendous reality of God's Word made flesh and dwelling among us. No other prophet had that privilege. No other prophet could point to God's living presence among us.

See, the Old Testament meets the New Testament, and all that God has given us in the Old Testament is being crowned by all that he will give us in the New. Isaiah prophesied that Israel would be brought back to God, and the survivors restored, so that the Lord's salvation might reach to the ends of the earth. Now this child, called John by his father, is born to Elizabeth and Zechariah to prepare the way for the Lord.

Each one of us shares in John's prophetic calling, through our baptism. By our lives, by our words, by our deeds, we, too, are called by God to manifest his presence in our lives. We are called to point out to others that Jesus Christ is alive and well, risen from the dead and present to those around us.

Fr. Michael Jeeva Antony



Los profetas en el Viejo Testamento, tales como, Isaías, Jeremías y otros fueron llamados por Dios, para proclamar enseñanzas y voluntad de Dios, para guiarnos y dirigirnos. La mayoría de ellas fueron rechazadas, y algunas veces puestas a muerte, por el poder y prestigio.

El día de hoy, la Iglesia celebra la solemnidad de su nacimiento. Jesús dijo a sus Doce Apóstoles: *Verdaderamente, Yo les digo, entre los nacidos de mujer hay uno que resucito no mayor que Juan el Bautista.* ¿Qué es lo que hizo a Juan el Bautista el más grande de los profetas? ¿Fue esa su personalidad? No. ¿Esa fue la vida que vivió? No. Lo que lo hizo el más grande de los profetas fue su papel en el drama de la salvación. Él fue el que refirió a Jesús como el Cordero de Dios. Su papel fue referir la tremenda realidad de la Palabra de Dios hecha carne y habitó entre nosotros.

Veamos, el Viejo Testamento se encuentra el Nuevo Testamento, y todo lo que Dios nos ha dado en el Viejo Testamento es coronado por todo lo que nos ha dado en el Nuevo. Isaías profetizó que Israel sería traído de regreso a Dios, y los sobrevivientes restaurados, para que, la salvación del Señor pueda ser alcanzada hasta el fin de los tiempos. Ahora este niño, llamado Juan por su padre, nacido de Elizabeth y Zacarías para preparar el camino del Señor.

Cada uno de nosotros compartimos el llamado profético de Juan, mediante nuestro bautizo. Por nuestra vida, nuestras palabras, nuestras obras, también, somos llamados por Dios para manifestar su presencia en nuestras vidas. Somos llamados a decir a otros que Jesucristo está vivo y resucitado de la muerte y presente en los que están alrededor de nosotros.

Padre Miguel Jeeva Antony

~ Lawn Sale UPDATE from Keith ~

THANK YOU!! For all the donations that have been brought in the last couple of months! And to all of you who WILL BE donating in this coming month! And a special note of thanks to all of you who have helped receive items at the shed.

The next drop-off is this coming Saturday, June 30th, 9:00am—2:00pm. If this day/time doesn't work with your schedule, just give me a call to make other arrangements (541-513-8512)

There's been some confusion where to drop off items.....the storage shed (sometimes called the 'barn') is located at the NW end of parish property (the far end by the parish center). Please do not drive across the lawn from the church! There is a long driveway with an entrance from Echo Hollow St., at the far north side of the church property, by the line of trees. It's easy and safe to drive along there.

Donations have been great, but more is still needed to make this big fundraiser a success. Also needed are bags and packing materials. Volunteers are still greatly needed — a sign-up poster will be in the church vestibule for cashiers, and another for general helpers. Two weeks prior to the July 26-28 sale, we'll need lots of volunteers to help sort, price, and display items — none of this can happen without YOU! Even just a few hours is helpful.



MANY, MANY THANKS! *Keith Messer*

IT'S A PACKED SUMMER! All Catholics, ages 21-39, are invited to join Eugene Catholic Young Adults for camping, game nights, service activities, retreat and, and more! For details, contact: eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com or 541-270-9329 or [facebook.com/EugeneCYA](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneCYA)

FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

WHY IS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH UNIQUE?

“You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church” (Mt 16:18). When Jesus founded the Church, he established a concrete, visible institution, that can be traced in an unbroken line down through the centuries. The Church is both a living organism and an organization. So, Christian unity is expressed not only spiritually, but in an organizational and practical term as well.

Jesus spoke of the Church as “a city set on a mountain” (Mt 5:14) — it is not invisible, but intended by God to be readily identifiable.

When Jesus declared that the apostle Peter was the “rock” on which he would build his Church, he made it possible to identify that Church and to know where it could be found. St. Peter became the first bishop of Rome and the bishops of Rome (popes) have continued to fill his special office as the “rock”. The Church Jesus established is spiritually and organizationally in communion with the successors of Peter. We are designated as the Roman Catholic Church because of the Pope's leadership role from that city.

The central role of the Roman Church in historic Christianity can be seen in its unique and decisive function in upholding Christian orthodoxy — literally, “correct doctrine” — throughout the ages. It is also evident in the papal leadership in ecumenical councils, such as the Council of Trent and the Second Vatican Council.

Why is the Church called “Catholic”? The word means “universal”, and describes both the scope of Jesus' saving mission (to redeem the whole world) and the extent of the organization he established — a global Church embracing all peoples. The first recorded use of the term is in a letter written by St. Ignatius of Antioch (the bishop), who was taught by the apostle John, and may well have known the apostle Peter.

The Catholic Church, then, is the universal Christian family in communion with St. Peter's successors, the popes. Founded by Jesus Christ himself through the apostles, it is unique both in its catholicity and in its adherence to the “rock”.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible

Mt 18:15-17 · Jn 17:21-23 · Acts 1:20; 14:24; 15:1-29; 20:28-31 · Rom 13:13; 16:17 · 1 Cor 1:10-13; 12:12-27 · 1 Tm 3:1-4 · 1 Pt 5:1 ·
& Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) Nos. 750-752 · 763-765 · 770-780 · 789 · 792 · 796 ·
805-826 · 830-838 · 846-849 · 855-868 · 874-892 · 936-939 · 2033 · 2044-2050 ·